MONDAY
August 25, 2025

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
18 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

https://newsth.live/fb
https://newsth.live/x
https://newsth.live/ig

RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

Vol. 56 • No. 202

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

BILL TO REMOVE PM, CMS

INDIA bloc won't allow its passage: Venugopal

NEWS » PAGE 11

KEY MILESTONE

ISRO finishes first air-drop test for Gaganyaan

NEWS » PAGE 12

NOIDA DOWRY MURDER

Accused shot in leg while 'trying to flee'

NEWS » PAGE 10

TRANSFER OF ARCHAEOLOGIST

ASI is facing a credibility crisis

Its epistemic endeavour is being subsumed by nationalistic fervour

OPINION » PAGE 9

BIDDING ADIEU

Cheteshwar Pujara hangs up his boots

SPORT » PAGE 15

Former CM Champai detained in Ranchi home

The Hindu Bureau
PATNA

The Jharkhand Police put former Chief Minister and BJP leader Champai Soren under "house arrest" in Ranchi on Sunday to stop him from taking part in a protest organised by Adivasi groups against land acquisition by the State government for building a hospital in the city. He was released in the evening.

In a post on X, the BJP leader said the State government had tried to prevent tribal and indigenous farmers of Nagdi from voicing their protest. BJP State president Babulal Marandi said the action was "nothing short of a murder of democracy". Minister Irfan Ansari said it was government land, and its acquisition would have no impact on the tribespeople.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10

98.2% Bihar voters have submitted documents: EC

Remaining 1.8% have eight days to submit documents, rectify mistakes on draft rolls, the poll body says; officers will complete verification of 'eligibility documents' by September 25, it adds

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission said on Sunday that the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar was on schedule even as the Opposition intensified protests against it.

The EC said it had received documents from 98.2% of the 7.24 crore electors in the State in 60 days. The remaining 1.8% voters had eight days to submit requisite documents that were not provided during enumeration, and to rectify mistakes on the draft electoral rolls published on August 1.

The EC said that 1.64% of the electors submitted documents per day. It said the electoral registration officers (ERO) and the assistant electoral registration officers (AERO) would take a final call on the claims and objections received, and they would complete the verification of "eligibility documents" by September 25. The final rolls will be published on September 30, it said.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10

Status update

The Election Commission on Sunday said that the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar is on schedule

- From June 24 to August 24, 98.2% of the electors submitted their documents
- On an average, the EC received documents from about 1.64% electors per day
- Electoral registration officers will take a final call on the claims and objections received
- The final electoral roll will be published on September 30

Ground zero: Officers collecting forms from electors in Vaishali district of Bihar during the first phase of the SIR. ANI

Aadhaar alone is not valid proof, claims BJP

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The BJP on Sunday said the Opposition was spreading propaganda over a Supreme Court order which only said that Aadhaar can be submitted with other documents during the SIR in Bihar, and not alone.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 10

YouTuber appears before police in Dharmasthala case

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

Two days after obtaining anticipatory bail, YouTuber M.D. Sameer, who has been accused of posting a communally-sensitive video on his channel on the alleged Dharmasthala mass burial case, appeared before the Belthangady police on Sunday.

He arrived in a vehicle to the police station with a team of four persons, including two advocates, around noon.

The Belthangady police had issued two notices asking Mr. Sameer, a resident of Bandihatti in Ballari town, to appear before the investigation officer in connection with a *suo motu* case registered against him by the police on July 12.

The notices had been pasted in front of Mr. Sameer's houses in Ballari and in Bengaluru. He had reportedly written to the police expressing concern over the recent attack on three YouTubers and had sought time to appear before the investigation officer.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 7

The police said that M.D. Sameer's video contained imaginary details about the Dharmasthala case.
SAMEER MD/INSTAGRAM

NEARBY

MLA remanded in ED custody for five days

BENGALURU
Chitradurga Congress MLA K.C. Veerendra, who was arrested by the ED from Gangtok, Sikkim, on Saturday, was remanded in custody for five days till August 28. » PAGE 6

Woman falls from flyover and dies

BENGALURU
A 31-year-old woman fell to her death from a 20-foot-high flyover when a car dashed against their two-wheeler on the Bachahalli Gate flyover early on Sunday. » PAGE 3

EDUCATIONPLUS » PAGES 4 & 5

LARSEN & TOUBRO

India's longest sea bridge didn't just connect people. It connected us with the environment too.

Constructing the Atal Setu was a leap in sustainable construction. One that cared for our most important stakeholders – the neighbouring flamingos and marine life.

Through constant air monitoring, reverse drilling, eco-friendly lights and noise-controlled generators, we paved the way for gentle construction in fragile environments, creating a bridge that didn't just ease life on it, but also protected life around it.

We took a leap of innovation towards sustainability.

JUST LEAP

A BG-BGE

Can Jaiswal decode consistency?

The Asia Cup snub should motivate the explosive opener from Mumbai to focus on the red-ball assignments at home starting with the Duleep Trophy followed by the series against the West Indies and South Africa

R. Kaushik

GETTY IMAGES

Yashasvi Jaiswal loves to enjoy himself; he loves the word 'enjoy'. Period. In his press conference at the Oval, after bringing up his second century of the Test series in England earlier this month, he used 'enjoy' and its variants a staggering 17 times (we are not kidding, we did keep count) in 10 minutes. Enjoy the contest. Enjoy batting. Enjoy the challenge of the moving ball. Enjoying myself. Enjoyed getting another hundred...

Enjoyment is something the flashy left-hander has provided in abundance in his two years as an international cricketer. Yes, sometimes, it is hard to fathom that he is just two years young at the highest level. After all, in such a short span of time, he has already achieved so much - 2,000-plus Test runs in 24 matches, six centuries including two double-hundreds, four tons away from home, and a Twenty20 International strike-rate of 164.31 and an average of 36.15 in 22 innings, among them a highest of 100 and five other half-centuries.

Now a Mumbaikar in every sense after having made the move from remote Suriyawan in Uttar Pradesh nearly a decade and a half back to pursue his interest in cricket, Jaiswal won't turn 24 until towards the end of the year. To be 23 and footloose is a gift and joy that has passed many of us by, but Jaiswal isn't just any other 23-year-old. When he walks out with a bat in hand, especially as part of the national team, he is one of 11 on whom so much hinges, on whom there is so much attention and scrutiny, expectations and pressure.

Astounding numbers

For now, he has handled these demands expertly without compromising on his organic flair. By nature an attacking batter, Jaiswal is scoring at 66.21 runs per 100 balls faced in Test cricket, an extraordinary number that, considering he has played exactly half his 24 games in South Africa, Australia and England. Already, he has hundreds in the Caribbean (171 on debut), in Australia and England (2), something numerous openers before him haven't stitched together in their entire careers. And it is fair to say that Jaiswal is still in the very early stages of his career and that unless something goes drastically wrong, he has a long and distinguished road ahead of him.

Occasionally, like any other human being but especially for someone still so young, he does have rushes of blood. He will stand with his feet firmly nailed to the ground and throw his hands at the ball outside off because, well, he sees a scoring opportunity. Sometimes, he makes no contact. At other times, he manages a healthy edge that sails over the slip cordon. From time to time, he will find the wicketkeeper or the slips off the outside edge and exit the ground, embarrassed and well aware that he has let his fans, his teammates and himself down, that a justified torrent of criticism is in store. But that's the very nature of a game where failure is more the norm than success and where the secret is to try and prolong the gap between failures.

England was touted to be Jaiswal's big test, not unlike the challenge he flunked on spicy, supremely bowling-friendly surfaces in Centurion and Cape Town a year and a half previously. With the fast bowlers from both sides having a field day (India wrapped up a two-day, series-levelling win at Newlands on the back of the heroics of Mohammed Siraj and Jasprit Bumrah), Jaiswal mustered just 50 runs in four innings, which seemed to suggest at the time that scores of 171, 57 and 38 in July 2023 against the West Indies were just a false dawn.

How wrong he was to prove everyone. Back at home the same month (January 2024) after making 0 and 28 in Cape Town, Jaiswal warmed up for what was to come with a blazing 80 in the first of five Tests against England, then followed it up with 209 and 214 not out to become just the third India after Vinod Kambli, the maverick left-hander, and one-time run-machine Virat Kohli to stack up successive Test double hundreds. He marked his debut in Australia with 161 of the finest in the second innings of the first Test in Perth and overcame a poor run thereafter with 82 and 84, two innings of great contrast, at the MCG. In Australia, they had turned up in their thousands to watch Kohli get to work. The former captain disappointed after promising so much with a second-innings ton in Perth, but the hard-nosed Aussies found a new star to back and harass (their way of expressing appreciation and respect) in the form of the lithe, loose-limbed left-hander who thought little of carving Mitchell Starc's first ball of a Test over the cover fielder and to the boundary.

At the risk of sounding unreasonable and unjust, if there is one area that Jaiswal needs to pay attention to, it is consistency. Between his 161 in Perth and the twin 80s in Melbourne, he had scores of 0, 24, 4 and 4*; in England over the summer, between 87 in Birmingham and 118 in the final innings of the series at the Oval, he managed 28, 13, 0, 58, 0 and 2. One can argue that that's the lot of an opening batter in Test cricket, when the bowlers are at their freshest and the ball at its newest and potentially most threatening.

GETTY IMAGES

Even accounting for that, Jaiswal will be the first to admit that he got himself out more often than bowlers getting him out, not least in the second innings at Lord's.

India were chasing 193 to open up a 2-1 lead when Jaiswal's ambitiousness got the better of him. Jofra Archer, playing his first Test in more than four years, produced a 141 kmph first ball that got big on the left-hander; for some strange reason, Jaiswal decided the pull was on. Beaten for pace and by the extra bounce that the strong right-hander procured, all he managed was a top edge that sailed straight up in the air and came down inside wicketkeeper Jamie Smith's huge gloves. Jaiswal gone for duck, the manner of the dismissal sparking fury among the fans and in the dressing room, where he was greeted with cold stares and shoulder while he desperately tried to avoid eye contact.

Unforgiving and greedy

If he already hasn't learnt his lessons, Jaiswal will do so quickly. He is smart enough to understand that the going will always not be good and therefore it is imperative to cash in when things fall in place. It's hard to point to inconsistency when one is averaging in excess of 50, but cricket followers especially are unforgiving and greedy; greed is a trait Jaiswal himself is trying to inculcate - the greed for runs, that is.

Several of his colleagues have pointed to a tendency to 'space out' in the field that Jaiswal must rectify soon. There are times when he seems caught up in his own world, a little oblivious to what's happening around him. Bowlers and captain Shubman Gill were tested in trying to grab his attention once he was banished to the outfield from the second Test onwards after shelling quite a few catches in the gully in the opener in Leeds. There is some work to be done on that front, though otherwise from a work-ethic perspective, he can hardly be faulted. Often, he is the first to hit the nets and the last to leave a practice session, batting long hours on specifics and enjoying the feel of ball on bat without compromising on improving his defensive game.

Jaiswal would have fancied his chances of earning a recall to the T20I team for the Asia Cup in the Emirates next month, but that wasn't to be. Despite having been a part of the side that won the World Cup in Bridgetown last June (he didn't get to play a single game then as India opened with skipper Rohit Sharma and Kohli), he is currently surplus to requirement. Jaiswal's T20I record speaks for itself and he had an excellent IPL 2025, but Abhishek Sharma's brilliance in India colours and the fact that he can also weigh in with his left-arm spin has postponed Jaiswal's comeback. In many quarters, there is a strong belief that his record commanded Jaiswal's inclusion ahead of Gill, but clearly, the latter is being groomed for greater responsibilities from a leadership point of view and the decision-makers believed that there could be no compromise on that front.

Disappointed as Jaiswal must be, there is nothing he can do about that. His time in T20Is will come, possibly sooner than later, but with the Asia Cup no longer on his calendar, he has time to refamiliarise himself with the challenge of facing the SG Test ball. India's last home Test was in November (a forgettable final act of a 0-3 meltdown against New Zealand); from October 2, they will play four Tests in their backyard in eight weeks, two each against West Indies and WTC champions South Africa. The Kiwi shock has meant home victories can no longer be taken for granted, and India have much work ahead of them as they seek valuable WTC points after a more than passable visit to England.

Jaiswal will again take it upon himself to set the tone at the top of the innings. He will have the Duleep Trophy, beginning later this week in Bengaluru, to get back into match mode. Jaiswal has struck up an excellent relationship with the more seasoned K.L. Rahul at the top of the Test batting tree, like he had done with Rohit for his first 14 Tests. Rahul is the ice to Jaiswal's fire, which must continue to burn bright if India are to exorcise the ghosts of the Kiwi nightmare.

The world is Jaiswal's oyster and he knows it. Despite Rohit and Kohli's retirement, he is still in the shadows of Gill and Rishabh Pant and while it may not bother him, it won't be long before he makes his moments under the sun more sustained and consistent.

THE GIST

- Already, Jaiswal has hundreds in the Caribbean (171 on debut), in Australia and England (2), something numerous openers before him haven't stitched together in their entire careers.
- He will again take it upon himself to set the tone at the top of the innings. He will have the Duleep Trophy, beginning later this week in Bengaluru, to get back into match mode.
- The lefthander is still in the shadows of Gill and Rishabh Pant and while it may not bother him, it won't be long before he makes his moments under the sun more sustained and consistent.

Recover ₹1,229 crore from erring contractors and officials, says CAG

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar says there was no 'scam' and CAG had flagged works that had 'faults'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) reports of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) works during 2017-2022 period have raised objections regarding several works and recommended recovery of ₹1,229 crore from erring contractors and officials.

However, the State government sought explanation from the respective unit heads, examined the answers and recommended dropping the objections. This was revealed in the Karnataka Legislative Council when Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar responded to a question by nominated H.P. Sudham Das, MLC, regarding the same on August 14.

Fact sheet

Year	Amount (in crore)
2017-18	₹225
2018-19	₹145
2019-20	₹174
2020-21	₹262
2021-22	₹423

While Mr. Das asked what was the amount of "scam" unearthed by CAG during its audit of BBMP works from 2017-18 to 2021-22, Mr. Shivakumar said that these cannot be termed as "scam", but CAG has flagged works which he said had "faults". Since the audit report doesn't term any of these works "wrongful" no FIRs have been registered against any contractors, but since works were flagged to be faulty, BBMP had initiated Departmental Enquiry (DE) against several officials, the response states. To the question as to how much has been recovered from erring officials and contractors as per CAG recommendations, Mr. Shivakumar has answered that explanations have been sought from unit heads overseeing works that have been flagged by the audit reports and the government has been recommending to drop the objections, based on their answers and action taken reports.

BBMP WORKS

It can be recalled that the Congress government had also formed four teams of officials to probe works in BBMP during the BJP regime and later withdrew it as the H.N. Nagamohan Das Commission was probing into the same.

N.S. Mukunda, of Bengaluru Praja Vedike, said that not recovering any money from contractors and officials for faulty works was making the entire audit process a farce. "Filing our objections to the recent five corporations, we have suggested that each of them must have an internal audit department staffed by auditors from the CAG to ensure objections are raised before money is paid," he said.

Missing person's car found in Hemavati canal

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

A car belonging to a person who went missing was found in the Hemavati canal at Haralahalli in Holenarasipur taluk on Sunday. Prema Kumar, 38, a resident of Karigowdana Koplu near Hassan, went missing on August 17. His father, Thimme Gowda, filed a complaint with the Shantigrama Police on Saturday, August 23, stating that his son had gone missing. On Sunday morning, a car was found in the Hemavati canal, and preliminary investigation revealed that the car belonged to Kumar. The police retrieved the car from the canal but did not find anybody inside. However, one of the windshields of the car was broken, the police said.

One held on cheating charge

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

The Shivamogga Police on Friday arrested a person in Mysuru, who allegedly cheated people by identifying himself as the personal assistant to Minister for School Education Madhu Bangarappa.

Shivamogga Superintendent of Police G.K. Mithun Kumar on Saturday told media persons that the accused, identified as Raghunath, the son of a retired government official, allegedly cheated a number of people after falsely promising them government jobs and transfers. The Jayanagara Police had registered a case based on a complaint by Youth Congress worker G. Girish in Shivamogga.

'55 assistant teachers transferred to non-teaching posts illegally'

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

As the transfer process of government primary and high school teachers is under way, the State government has transferred 55 assistant teachers working in various government high schools to non-teaching posts.

With the approval of Chief Minister, the transfer order was issued by the Under Secretary of the Department of School Education and Literacy (High School) on August 20, 2025. However, teachers, School Development and Monitoring Committees (SDMCs), and other stakeholders have opposed this transfer, alleging that some teachers have illegally obtained transfers through the Chief Minister's office using political influence while the teacher transfer process is under way. "There is a possibility of massive corruption behind this," they alleged.

As per the Karnataka State Civil Services (Regulation of Transfer of Teachers) Act-2020, the government or the Department of School Education and Literacy (DSEL) cannot transfer any teacher through other channels during the transfer process.

In addition, to prevent the illegal transfer of teachers to their preferred posts and places of convenience through political influences, the State government has restricted posting of teachers to non-teaching posts.

In 2017, the High Court too had issued an order not to appoint teachers to non-teaching jobs, and in 2021 it had issued a notice to the State government which had deputed and transferred teachers to non-teaching posts.

Almost all the transferred teachers have been appointed to non-teaching posts. Many teachers have been transferred to the posts of Librarians, Technical Assistants and Programme Assistants in District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs). Teachers have expressed their dissatisfaction that the Chief Minister himself has transferred high school assistant teachers to non-teaching posts when there is a shortage of teachers in high schools in the State. The State government has appointed around 9,000 guest teachers. In addition, the results in the SSLC examination have declined for the last two years, and the Chief Minister has ordered the officials not to give any grace marks to the students and pass them, and take necessary steps to record at least 75% results in the SSLC annual examination-1.

It is inexcusable that the government, disregarding any of this, has again transferred high school assistant teachers to non-teaching posts. If those with influence take the transfer but do not have eligibility, what will happen to the rest?" questioned the headmaster of a government high school in Bengaluru.

Umesh G. Gangavadi, State President of SDMC, said, "It is not right for the government to bow to pressure from influential people and transfer teachers. This is also a violation of the Teachers Transfer Act." In the interest of children, the order of transferring teachers to non-teaching posts should be withdrawn immediately, he urged.

INSTITUTE OF LIVER & BILIARY SCIENCES (ILBS)

ilbs

"CAREER OPPORTUNITIES"
Faculty & Non-Faculty Posts
(ILBS/Careers/3/25)

Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS) is an autonomous super-specialty Institute of excellence under GNCT of Delhi and a Deemed-to-be-University by the GOI. Its vision is to be a global leader by becoming a beacon of patient care, teaching and research in the field of Liver, Pancreatobiliary, Renal, Oncology and Organ Transplantation. All appointments shall be on "contract basis" and will initially be for a period of "four years" (except for Senior Residents) and can be extended based on performance. In its search for the best talent, ILBS invites applications for the following positions including Persons with Disabilities & various categories:

APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR UR, OBC, EWS, SC, ST & PWD CATEGORY

1.	Professor (Radiation Oncology)	1-UR
2.	Professor (Medical Oncology)	1-UR
3.	Professor (AI Health & Research	1-UR
4.	Professor (Pediatric Hepatology)	1-UR
5.	Additional Professor (Hepatology)	2-UR,1-OBC
6.	Additional Professor (Pediatric Hepatology)	1-UR
7.	Associate Professor (Liver Transplant Surgery)	1-UR
8.	Associate Professor (Hepatology)	2-UR, 1-OBC
9.	Associate Professor (Medical Oncology)	1-UR
10.	Associate Professor (Radiology)	2-UR, 1-OBC
11.	Associate Professor (Renal Transplant)	1-UR
12.	Associate Professor (Nephrology)	1-UR
13.	Assistant Professor (Radiology)	1-UR, 1-OBC
14.	Assistant Professor (Gen AI Development-Healthcare Software)	2-UR
15.	Assistant Professor (Clinical Hematology)	1-UR
16.	Assistant Professor (Medical Oncology)	1-UR
17.	Assistant Professor (Psychiatry)	1-UR
18.	Assistant Professor (Statistics)	1-UR
19.	Assistant Professor (Clinical Research / Epidemiology)	1-UR
20.	Consultant Grade I,II,III,IV (Medical Oncology, Radiology, Liver Transplant Surgery, Renal Transplant, Neurology, Clinical Hematology)	9-UR, 4-OBC, 2-SC,1-ST
21.	Casualty Medical Office	2*-OBC,1-SC
22.	Resident Medical Officer	3-UR, 1-OBC,1-SC,1-ST, 1-OH#
23.	Senior Resident (Hepatology, Nephrology, Radiology, Medical Oncology, Cardiology, Pulmonary Medicine, Neurology, Renal Transplant)	8-UR, 5*-OBC, 2-SC, 1-ST, 1-EWS, 2-OH#
24.	Deputy Head Operations (Medical)	1-UR
25.	Assistant Head Operations (Medical)	1-UR, 1-OBC
26.	Financial Advisor	1-UR
27.	Senior Manager (Nurse)	1-UR
28.	Manager (Nursing)	1-UR, 1-OBC
29.	Manager (Purchase)	1-UR
30.	Manager (Security Services)	1-UR
31.	Manager (Engineering)	1-UR
32.	Chief Technical Executive (Hepatology)	1-UR
33.	Senior Technical Executive (Hepatology)	1-OBC
34.	Deputy Manager (Security & Fire)	1-UR
35.	Deputy Manager (Finance & Accounts)	1-UR
36.	Deputy Manager (IT)	2-UR
37.	Deputy Manager (Store)	1-UR
38.	Assistant Registrar	1-UR
39.	Assistant Manager (Purchase)	1-UR, 1-OBC
40.	Assistant Manager Nurse	2-UR,1-OBC,1-OH#
41.	Transplant Coordinator	1-UR, 1-OBC
42.	Junior Engineer (Electrical/AC)	1-UR, 1-OBC
43.	Senior Executive (Academics)	1-UR
44.	Senior Technician (Electrical)	1-UR
45.	Executive (HR)	1-UR, 1-OBC
46.	Executive (Purchase)	1-UR, 1-OBC
47.	Executive Nurse	28*-OBC,9* -EWS, 3-OH#
48.	Junior Executive Nurse	7-UR, 5*-OBC , 3-OH#
49.	Resident Hospital Administrator	2-UR, 1-OBC
50.	Junior Staff Assistant	3-UR,3*-OBC,1-ST

*** including backlog, #on horizontal basis**

Last Date: 20th September, 2025. For further details, eligibility criteria and recruitment rules please visit **http://www.ilbs.in**

Head Operations (Non Medical) , ILBS

"HEALTHY LIVER – HEALTHY INDIA"
24 Hr Emergency, Liver Ambulance & Helpline: 9540947084, Ph.: 011-463 00 000

THE FEDERAL BANK LIMITED
Regd. Office: Aluva, Kerala.

ZONAL OFFICE: 2nd Floor, Halcyon Complex, No.9, St Marks Road, Bangalore-560 001.
e-mail: bgrr-cpc@federalbank.co.in Phone: 080-22074610/604/613/624/625

BGRR/PvtSale/2025-26 **NOTICE FOR PRIVATE SALE OF GOLD** 22/08/2025

Notice is hereby given for the information of all concerned that Gold Ornaments pledged in the following Gold Loan accounts, with the under mentioned Branches of the Bank, which are overdue for redemption and which have not been regularized so far in spite of repeated notices, will be put for Private sale, in the respective Branches on any date after 10-09-2025 as shown below:

Br. Belthangadi: Suvarna Arcade, Belthangadi, Dakshina Kannada- 574 214, Ph. No. 08256-232404 :- 19016400103961,19016400104357.
Br. B C Road: Ground floor, Hindusthan Towers, Oppo LIC office, Santhi Angadi Kaikamba, BC Road, Dakshina Kannada- 574 219 :- 20716400084940,20716400078470,20716400086416.
Br. Bhatkal: Misbah Chambers, Ranginkatta, NH 17, Bhatkal, Uttar Kannada Dist.., Karnataka- 581 320 :- 19866400118561,19866400117712, 19866400091016,19866400103902,19866400117928,19866400113323,19866400119130,19866400110295,19866400116722,19866400101781,19866400119718, 19866400119825,19866400093848,19866400111160,19866400111731,19866400114628,19866400119171,19866900000236,19866400110709,19866400111939, 19866400109610,19866400109958,19866400120039,19866100012767,19866100015315,19866400121136,19866400108729,19866400121185,19866100013765, 19866400121326,19866400121441,19866400095736,19866900000129,19866400072941,19866100012031,19866100014409,19866900000475,19866400099118.
Br. Chikmagalur: P B No 157, BM Buildings, Thogarihenkal Circle, K M Road, Chikmagaluru- 577 101, Ph. No. 08262-233024 :- 13566100435762,13566400233396,13566400218827,13566400252529,13566400218561,13566400207614,13566400252164,13566100436224,13566400242652, 13566400228958,13566100435978,13566400214321,13566400212986,13566400249699,13566400252420,13566400252719,13566400253279,13566400254368, 13566400253741,13566400238502,13566400254491.
Br.Channarayapatna: Ground Floor, Madhu Complex, Mysore Road, Channarayapatna, Hassan, Karnataka- 573 116, Ph No. 08176-252438 :- 19876400146645,19876400148039,19876100044108,19876400148534,19876400148047,19876400139665,19876400149953,19876400154565.
Br. Gonikopal: Sudharma Building, Near Masjid, Ponnampet Road Jn, Main Road, Gonikoppal, Kodagu - 571 213 :- 19616400118438,19616400138394.
Br. Hebri: Spatika Plaza, Kuchoor Road, Hebri, Karkala Taluk, Udupi Dist., Karnataka- 576 112, Ph. No. 08253-250045 :- 18966400034197,18966400033058,18966900000805,18966400032902,18966400033959,18966400033991,18966400034031,18966900000599,18966400027860, 18966400034072,18966900000698.
Br. Hassan: Ground Floor, St. Antony's Church Complex, NR Circle, HN Pura Road, Hassan, Karnataka- 573 201 :- 13546400271422,13546400315732,13546300014112,13546400333461,13546400337892,13546300083919,13546400315641,13546400277312,13546300070924, 13546300084099,13546400335292,13546300084610,13546300083869,13546400337132,13546300014161,13546300082002,13546400330335,13546300082648, 13546300082671,13546400339351,13546300084008,13546300082069,13546400305352,13546300021935,13546300019624,13546400311319,13546300071104, 13546300084362,13546400333552,13546300084057,13546300073936,13546400339096,13546300083745,13546300082267,13546400336514,13546300083067, 13546300082465,13546101035191,13546300021273,13546300082853,13546400336803,13546300084248,13546300036461,13546400338254,13546300070890, 13546300073902,13546400333602,13546300083349,13546300021828,13546400280183,13546300020259,13546300083968,13546400336654,13546300070882, 13546300083703,13546400336530,13546300082093,13546300070908.
Br. Kadur: Dr Vishwanath Building, Maravanji Circle, BH Road, Kadur, Chikmagalur Dist, Karnataka- 577 548 Ph. No. 08267-221244 :- 18936400060617,18936400061698,18936100026843,18936400041716,18936400035528,18936400064825,18936400053067,18936400042276,18936400061185, 18936400061342,18936400062035,18936400042599,18936400061276,18936100026694,18936400065129,18936100028211,18936400062837,18936400062969, 18936400062944,18936400063181,18936400047085,18936400062977,18936400069345,18936400065459,18936400054628,18936400063868,18936400055823, 18936100026488,18936100024822. **Br. Kadaba: Ground Floor, Anugraha Complex, Main Road, Kadaba, Dakshina Kannada- 574 221 :-** 20126400033394,20126400045976,20126400046412,20126400037551,20126400044870,20126400035597,20126400046255,20126400048822,20126400048954, 20126900000406,20126900000281,20126400048129.
Br. Kundapura: Shivram Complex, Municipal Main Road, Kundapura, Udupi Dist. Karnataka- 576 201 Ph. No. 08254 233144 :- 20146100007084,20146100007290,20146100007324,20146400108129,20146400114994,20146400117435,20146400120306,20146400117716,20146400115769, 20146400118573,20146400119670,20146100007647,20146400119274,20146400119498,20146400097009,20146400116932.
Br. Kushalnagar: HRS Mansion, BM Road, Kushal Nagar, Kodagu District, Karnataka - 571 234, Ph. No. 08276 274084 :- 19316400096912,19316400096904,19316400096763,19316400105937.
Br. Karkala: Opp Bundimatt Bus Stand, Karkala, Udupi District, Karnataka- 574 104 :- 19636400038683,19636400035259,19636400039053, 19636100016377,19636400031613,19636100017169,19636400027660,19636400031894,19636400038204,19636900000803.
Br. Kinnigoli: C4 and C5, Pintos Golden Castle, Talipady Road, Next to BSNL office, Kinnigoli, Dakshin Kannada, Karnataka- 574 150 Ph: 0824-2295690 :- 20076400034936,20076400034944,20076900000163,20076900000189,20076400039851.
Br. Mangalore: P B No. 775, Near PVS Circle, Manasa Towers, M G Road, Kodialbail, Mangalore, Dakshin Kannada- 575 003, Ph. No. 08242-497883 :- 11755600004838,11756400048520,11756400049361,11755600004887,11756100095359,11756400048942,11756400050120,11756400050138,11755600004770, 11755600004945,11755600004671,11755600004796,11756400049429,11756400050237,11756900042577,11756900042593,11756900043211,11756400050039, 11756400050096,11756100094683. **Br. Mangalore/Kankanady: The Vintage, Kankanady, Dakshina Kannada, Mangalore- 575 002, Ph: 08242430152 :-** 17706400040765,17706400041136,17706400040153,17706900000988,17706400035104,17706400039817,17706400031665,17706400039965,17706400041276, 17706400041300,17706400040633,17706400040641,17706400032283,17706400041060,17706400040302,17706400040344,17706400040369.
Br. Nellyadi: Elite Plaza, Nh 48, Near St. George P U College, Nellyadi, Dakshina Kannada- 574 229, Ph: 08251-256100 :- 16446400105364,16446400108780, 16446400103138,16446400107741,16446400107022,16446100013454,16446400089303,16446400109473,16446400110398,16446400108350,16446400081078.
Br. Puttur: Meenar Complex, Main Road, Puttur, Dakshin Kannada, Karnataka- 574 201, Ph: 08251-233544 :- 18946400086207,18946100013576,18946400103556,18946400087080,18946400091181.
Br. Shimoga: Haranahalli Manjappa Complex, Park Extension Road, Durgigudi, Shimoga District, Karnataka- 577 201, Ph. No. 08182-271998 :- 15906400087152,15906400090677,15906400100278,15906400102472,15906400066453,15906400091592,15906400102282,15906400103488,15906400077674, 15906400101938,15906400098936,15906400104767,15906400085263,15906400091758,15906400071404,15906400098365,15906400094141,15906400096930, 15906400090743,15906400098456,15906400101680,15906900002271,15906400104155,15906400098571,15906900000960,15906400102456,15906900001521, 15906900002511,15906100028589,15906400102506,15906900001562,15906400103983,15906400100948,15906100028225,15906400098985,15906400078516, 15906100028258,15906400092731,15906400099033,15906400099199,15906400100922,15906400097813,15906400103314,15906400103371,15906400102480, 15906400066347,15906400093051,15906400102449,15906400101136,15906400092889,15906400103298,15906400089653,15906400103462,15906400087939, 15906400105327,15906900002735,15906400091220,15906400083722.
Br. Sullia: Ganesh Complex, Main Road, Sullia, Dakshina Kannada, Karnataka- 574 239, Ph. No. 08257 230818 :- 19005500014640,19006400051641,19006400054462,19006400054710,19006400054702,19006400048027,19005500015209,19006400054801,19005500014954, 19006100029525,19006400048027,19005500011927,19006400054454,19006400054181,19006100029442.
Br. Thokottu: R E B Complex, Opp.Thokottu Bus stand, NH17, Permannur Po, Thokkottu Jn, Dakshin Kannada– 575 017, Ph. No.08242462013 :- 20136400082309,20136400078489,20136400082705,20136400077614,20136400083331,20136400083711.
Br. Udupi: Mahalasa Towers, Court Road, Udupi, Karnataka- 576 101, Ph. No. 08202521562 :- 15746400054855,15746400069481,15746400072931,15746400068905,15746400066024,15746400070448,15746400066032.
Br. Narasimharajapura: No.794, Dayasagar Complex, Near IOC Petrol Pump, Nagalapura, B H Kaimara, Chikmagalur, Karnataka- 577 134 Ph: 08266-228055 :- 18956400031129. **Br. Arsikere : Near LIC Office, B H Road, Arsikere, Hassan, Karnataka- 573 103 :-** 20306400050958,20306400057276,20306400057391,20306400056146,20306400056849,20306400050388,20306400052905,20306400059363,20306400061047.

Bangalore 22-08-2025 Vice President & Zonal Head

FORM NO. 14
[See Regulation 33(2)]

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL
BENGALURU (DRT 2)
Government of India
Ministry of Finance Department
of Financial Services Debt
Recovery Tribunal - II Karnataka (Bengaluru)
4th Floor, Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road
Bengaluru, Pincode - 560 001.

DRC No. 2538 / 17
PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK
Devanahalli Branch
M.R. Complex, Sulibele Road,
Shanthinagar, Devanahalli - 562 110.
Bangalore Rural
... Certificate Holder
Versus
SIR G.J. MANJUNATH & ANOTHER
... Defendants

DEMAND NOTICE

1. Sri G.J. Manjunath
S/o. Sri. Javaregowda
R/a No. 3450A, 12th Cross,
Manju Byraveshwara Nilaya,
Ganapathi Nagar, Bangalore - 560 058.
And Also at :
Sri G.J. Manjunath
C/o. M/s. Indus Colour Tech
No. 2, 10th Main, Maruthi Industrial Town,
Thigalarapalya Main Road,
Near Peenya 2nd Stage
Bangalore - 560 058.
2. Mr. Vela Johny Reegan .I.J.
S/o. Sri. Immanuel Joseph
R/o. No. 2429, 3rd Cross,
Coconut Garden, Tumkur Main Road,
T. Dasarahalli, Bangalore.
And also carrying on Bussiness at :
Mr. Vela Johny Reegan .I.J.
Prop. J.J. Metal Suppliers
Mosque Road, Peenya 1st Cross,
1st Stage, Bangalore - 560 058.
... Defendants

In View of the Recovery Certificate issued in **O.A No. 1070/2013** passed by the Presiding Officer, DRT, Bangalore an amount of **Rs. 11,13,478/- (Rupees Eleven Lakhs Thirteen Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Eight Only)** is due against you along with interest and costs from the date of filing of O.A.s till realization of the Recovery Certificate.

In addition to the sum aforesaid you will be liable to pay all charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and other process that may be taken for recovering the amount due.

You are hereby called upon to deposit the amount within 15 days of the receipt of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made as per rules.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on 31st day of Oct. 2017.

RECOVERY OFFICER - 2
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL- 2
BANGALORE

Note: Attention is invited to Rule 16 of the Second Schedule of the Income Tax Act 1961 read with recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 which is reproduced below:

"Rule 16(1) where a notice has been served on a defaulter under Rule 2, the defaulter or his representative or his representative in interest shall not be competent to mortgage, charge, lease or otherwise deal with any property belonging to him except with the permission of the Debts Recovery Officer, nor shall any civil court issue any process against such property in execution of a decree for the payment of money.

2) Where an attachment has been made under this schedule any private transfer or delivery of the property attached or of any interest therein and any payment to defaulter of any debt, dividend or other monies contrary to such attachment shall be void as against all claims enforceable under the attachment.

3) You are also liable to disclose your assets both movable and immovable to this Tribunal along with the Income Tax Returns of last 5 years.

CLASSIFIEDS MART

TO ADVERTISE VISIT
www.thehinduads.com
Bengaluru: 98455 29981 ■ 080-22071826
Mangaluru: 0824-2417575 ■ 2417580
Hubballi: 0836-2338600 ■ 2335700

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Vemgal Salma W/O, Abdul Khayum R/o #279, 4th Cross,khutub Shahinsha Nagar, near Bilal Masjid, kolar, karnataka 563101 have changed my name to A Salma.

RENTAL

FOR RENT – Prime Commercial Property At Vellore, Chennai Bangalore N.H.Road next to D–Mart. Total Land Area: 8,000 sq.ft., Built–up Area: 12,000 sq.ft. Suitable for Showrooms, and Commercial Establishments. Prime location with high visibility and easy accessibility. Contact: +91 98400 77411 / 98423 87128

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF HON'BLE CITY CIVIL JUDGE (COMMERCIAL COURT) AT BANGALORE CITY (C.C.C.H-25)
COMM. O.S No.534 OF 2025

PLAINTIFF: M/s V.K. Corporation, No. 202, 3rd Phase, 1st Phase, Peenya Industrial Area, Lakshmi Nagar, Bangalore- 560 058. Represented by its P. A. Holder **Sri Satish R.** Son of Sri Rajshekar, aged about 35 years **-V/s-**

DEFENDANT: Tip Top Agencies & Others

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANTS UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 OF THE CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

Defendant No.1: M/s Tip Top Agencies No. 150, Commercial Street, Bangalore- 560 001. Represented by its Partner Sri Shaji M.

Defendant No.2: Sri Shaji .M. Son of Sri Anandan P. Partner M/s Tip Top Agencies Residing at Bhagya Nivas Neduvottamkunnu Mattanur P.O. Chavassery, Kannur Thalassesry- 670 702, Kerala State

Whereas the Plaintiff has filed a suit for the recovery of Rs. 7,47,201/- together with court costs and current and future interest at 24% P.A.from the date of suit until realization and other reliefs against you and other defendants you are hereby summoned to appear before this Hon'ble Court (CCH-85) in person or by a Pleader duly instructed on **26/09/2025** at **11.00 A.M** to answer the same, failing which the case will be heard in your absence and declared as ex parte.

Given under my hand and seal of this court on this 21/08/2025 at Bangalore

By order of the Court, Senior Sheristedar, Commercial Court Unit, City Civil Court, Bengaluru

Advocate for Plaintiff: **Sanhsu Singh**

Is India underestimating the cost of dealing with invasive species?

In a new assessment, non-native plants have emerged as the most economically impactful invasive species worldwide as well as the costliest group vis-à-vis the cost of management, demanding $926 billion in 1960-2022; next in line were arthropods ($830 billion) and mammals ($263 billion)

Monika Mondal

Damage from non-native plants and animals expanding into new ecosystems has cost society more than $2.2 trillion worldwide, a new study by an international team of researchers has said.

Published in *Nature Ecology & Evolution*, the study used numbers from InvaCost, a public database that records the economic costs of biological invasions by country, and modelling exercises to analyse data from 1960. It concluded that costs may have been underestimated by 16x over previous estimates.

Beyond global economic losses, the study also modelled the impact in 78 countries for which no data was previously available. In India, a nation grappling with numerous environmental and economic challenges, the findings underscore an oft-overlooked financial drain.

A global discrepancy

Europe was found to have the highest potential impact in absolute terms at $1.5 trillion (71.45% of global cost), followed by North America ($226 billion), Asia ($182 billion), Africa ($127 billion), and Australia and Oceania ($27 billion).

Brian Leung, one of the lead researchers and the UNESCO Chair for Dialogues on Sustainability, said, "The cost of invasions might just be higher because of the cost of things in Europe. There's more to damage, the cost of the agricultural products, and the cost of management might be higher."

The study did not estimate a total economic damage figure for India in absolute terms but emphasised the magnitude of underreported management costs. In fact, among all the countries assessed, the study found India had the highest percentage discrepancy of management expenditure: 1.16 billion percent.

Per the study, this exceptionally high disparity suggests a significant amount of management spending in India has likely been unrecorded or underreported in the existing data, leading to a substantial "hidden" cost. The researchers were careful to note that India's limited resources could have contributed as much to this gap as a recording bias in the InvaCost database, which may be overlooking reports in languages predominant in Africa and Asia.

Europe reported a discrepancy of 15,044%, followed by Asia (3,090%), and Africa (1,944%). The median cost discrepancy among the assessed countries was 3,241%.

Mr. Leung said he was unsure of India-level specifics or how the figures break down, but noted that general management strategies could include different elements like prevention, eradication, control or suppression, and efforts to slow the spread of invasion. "These are all tools used for managing invasions," he said.

S. Sandilyan, a former fellow on Invasive Alien Species at the Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law in Chennai, said the findings of the study are plausible. "India is falling short in documenting, reporting, and strategically funding biological invasion management. Lack of centralised data systems, limited inter-agency coordination, and competing conservation priorities exacerbate this," he added.

A large portion of Bandipur National Park is covered by the lantana weed, which is highly combustible when dry. FILE PHOTO

Who are the invaders?

Plants emerged as the most economically impactful invasive species worldwide as well as the costliest group vis-à-vis the cost of management, demanding $926.38 billion in 1960-2022. Next in line were the arthropods ($830.29 billion) and mammals ($263.35 billion). The researchers speculated that these species spread to new ecosystems – where they could thrive at the cost of its incumbents – primarily through trade and travel, helped along by globalisation and bilateral deals. They singled out Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*) and common lantana (*Lantana camara*) to be among the costliest to manage per square kilometre.

Leung, however, cautioned that simply eradicating all invasive species would make the problem worse. "A lot of the agricultural products that dominate our system now are not native," he said.

> India is falling short in documenting, reporting, and funding invasion management. Lack of centralised data systems, limited coordination, and competing conservation priorities exacerbate this
>
> **S. SANDILYAN**
> CENTRE FOR BIODIVERSITY POLICY AND LAW IN CHENNAI

"Invasive species transport is a byproduct of trade and importation of living organisms because we want them, and sometimes these are the driving forces behind invasions," Mr. Leung added. "Europe has been doing that for a long time."

This presents a two-faceted challenge: on one hand, there is an imperative to mitigate economic losses; on the other, there is the desire to foster further globalisation. Thus, according to Mr. Leung, efforts must simultaneously be made to curtail the spread of invasive species and address global warming by increasing vegetation. Given these complex, intersecting objectives, reconciling these disparate goals in studying invasive species becomes a significant challenge, he added.

Control measure

The study also acknowledged that several international policies to deal with invasive species are in place, which scientists at large believe have had a positive effect on reducing the rate of biological invasions. Key among them is a regulation concerning shipping traffic and trade practice: the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (a.k.a. Ballast Water Management Convention), which is designed to prevent the spread of harmful aquatic organisms from one region to another via ships' ballast water.

Likewise, regulations under the Convention on Biological Diversity call on parties (including India) to "prevent the introduction of, control, or eradicate those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats, or species."

These international agreements underscore a global recognition of the threat posed by invasive species and efforts to mitigate their spread through various control points.

As for management costs, Mr. Leung said response strategies can range from preventing new invasions aiming for complete eradication of established populations or controlling their spread to minimise impact.

The large discrepancies in reported costs also underscore the need for improved data collection, comprehensive tracking of expenditures, and robust reporting mechanisms.

"For example, even though the cost estimates in Africa are really quite limited, it doesn't mean the damages are limited," he explained.

While the study does not say anything about the state of invasive species, it may be a call to action. Its specific analysis and the database were based on the measured economic costs, according to Mr. Leung, "because it's often easier to measure and people often understand money better."

(Monika Mondal is a freelance science and environment journalist. a.monikamondal@gmail.com)

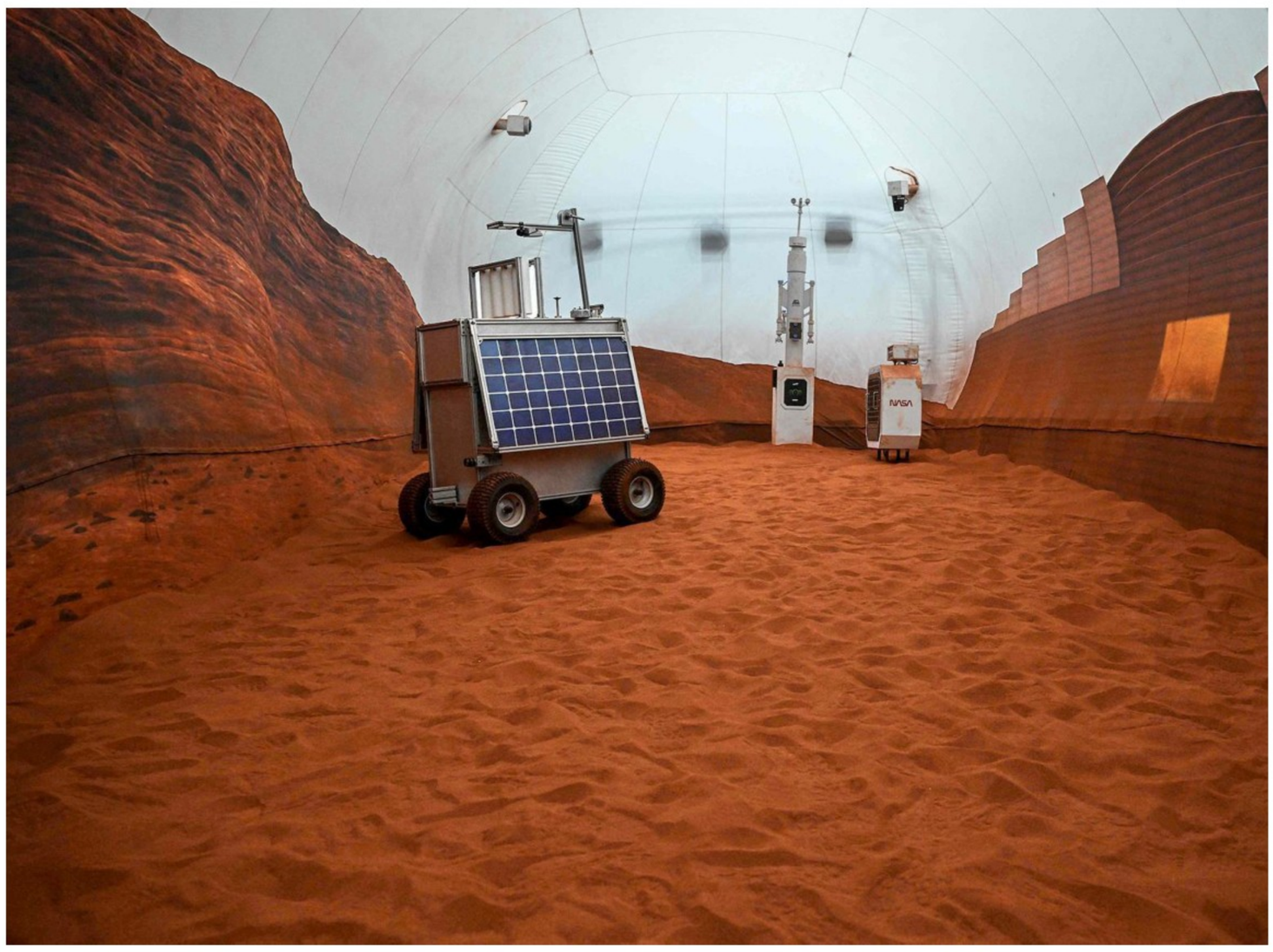
THE GIST

Europe was found to have the highest potential impact in absolute terms at $1.5 trillion, followed by North America ($226 billion), Asia ($182 billion), Africa ($127 billion), and Australia and Oceania ($27 billion)

India had the highest percentage discrepancy of management expenditure: 1.16 billion percent. This suggests spending has likely been unrecorded or underreported, leading to a substantial hidden cost. Europe reported a discrepancy of 15,044%, Asia (3,090%), and Africa (1,944%)

Researchers cautioned that simply eradicating all invasive species would make the problem worse since many agricultural products across the world are not native. Invasive species are a byproduct of trade and importation of living organisms

BIG SHOT



A simulated Mars exterior portion of NASA's Crew Health and Performance Exploration Analog (CHAPEA) is seen at the Johnson Space Centre in Houston, August 22, 2025. CHAPEA is a 3D-printed habitat designed to serve as an analog for one-year missions. This mission will have four crew members and it will start in late fall 2025. AFP

WHAT IS IT?

Cloudburst: when the balloon pops

Vasudevan Mukunth

Cloudbursts occur when strong updrafts in thunderstorms hold large amounts of water high in the atmosphere. Representative image. RIC MATKOWSKI/UNSPLASH

A cloudburst is a sudden and intense rainfall event that can transform weather conditions within minutes. Unlike the steady and large-scale downpour typical of monsoon rains, a cloudburst is localised, often drenching a small area with an extraordinary amount of water.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) defines a cloudburst as rainfall of more than 100 mm in one hour over an area of about 2030 sq. km. This threshold is used in India to identify events that can lead to flash floods and landslides, especially in mountainous areas.

The World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) defines cloudbursts differently, however: as rain pouring down at a rate of 100 mm per hour or more. The WMO definition also makes reference to the Swedish term 'skyfall', which is described as 1 mm per minute, or 60 mm per hour for short bursts and 50 mm per hour when sustained for longer periods.

Other references describe the phenomenon by its physical process rather than by rainfall numbers. Cloudbursts often occur when strong updrafts in thunderstorms hold large amounts of water high in the atmosphere. When the updraft collapses, this water is released suddenly, resulting in an intense downpour. Scientific papers have also highlighted the role of orographic lifting, where moist air is forced upwards by mountains, leading to rapid condensation and heavy rain.

This said, all definitions agree that a cloudburst is short-lived and very intense, and is capable of causing severe damage. The area of effect could be larger, however, depending on where the water flows.

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

Sections of double-decker flyover remain unfinished even after a year

The main corridor was opened in July 2024. The unfinished 1.37-km ramps from HSR Layout connecting Ragigudda and BTM Layout continue to hinder the structure's potential. BMRCL officials say it is likely be ready by August or September

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Even though the Namma Metro's Yellow Line is now operational, portions of the double-decker flyover running alongside it remain unfinished, causing frustration among daily commuters. Specifically, the 1.37-km ramps from HSR Layout connecting Ragigudda and BTM Layout are still under construction, leaving this crucial section non-functional.

The double-decker flyover, built by the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) at a cost of ₹449 crore, spans 5.12 km and was designed to ease bottlenecks at the notoriously congested Central Silk Board junction.

The main corridor connecting Ragigudda to Silk Board junction via a signal-free route was opened to vehicular traffic in July 2024. However, one year later, the unfinished ramps continue to hinder the structure's full potential. "Why is this ramp still not open despite being one of the most important links? It could significantly reduce congestion on the Silk Board flyover. Now that the entire Yellow Line is operational, this stretch remains unused just because the ramps are incomplete. It feels like we have been waiting forever. Every day, I have to take the under flyover while coming from HSR Layout just because this ramp is not open," said Roshan Rai, a regular commuter from Banashankari who travels to his office in HSR Layout.

The main corridor connecting Ragigudda to Silk Board junction via a signal-free route was opened to ease bottlenecks. The flyover, built by the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited at a cost of ₹449 crore, spans 5.12 km. K. MURALI KUMAR

Another commuter, Naveen Sharma, said, "Every day I see these almost-ready ramps lying idle. They could save me nearly 15 minutes on my daily commute. The delay just doesn't make sense after so much investment and publicity. Now, with the Yellow Line open, the flyover is not completed. This shows the way how the authorities delayed the project in the city."

Missed deadline

The ramps in question were initially expected to be ready by June 2025, but the BMRCL has missed that deadline as well. An official said, "Around 90% of the work is complete and the remaining portions will likely be commissioned by August end or September mid week this year."

The flyover features loops and ramps designed to facilitate smooth travel and integrate with the Yellow Line's elevated metro corridor. It passes through three key stations – Jayadeva Hospital, BTM Layout, and Silk Board junction – and will eventually have five ramps in total.

Currently, ramps A, B, and C are operational. Ramp A links the Ragigudda Metro Station to Hosur Road, ramp B branches off from ramp A towards HSR Layout, ramp C connects BTM Layout to Hosur Road and HSR Layout via ramp A. The remaining ramp D will be elevated above ramp A and the metro line, enabling a direct route from HSR Layout to Ragigudda. Ramp E will descend from HSR Layout to BTM Layout. Both of these are still under construction.

The double-decker design allows two separate carriageways each with two lanes running beneath the elevated Yellow Line viaduct. This combination of road and rail was intended to maximise space in the stretch and reduce travel time between southern and central parts of Bengaluru.

The flyover forms part of the 19.15-km Yellow Line, which connects R.V. Road to Bommasandra and was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on August 10. While metro services are now fully operational along this stretch, road users are still waiting for the flyover to deliver its full benefits.

Minor run over by BMTC bus

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

This is the fifth fatal accident involving BMTC buses reported in the last one week

A 12-year-old boy was crushed to death and his uncle was injured after a speeding BMTC bus ran over him on S.J.P Road in Halasuru Gate police station limits on Sunday evening.

The deceased has been identified as Shabarish, 12.

The police said that around 6.40 p.m., Shabarish was riding pillion with his uncle on a two-wheeler when a BMTC bus heading towards Town Hall from Market Road on S.J.P. Road hit the two-wheeler. Shabarish fell, and the rear wheel of the bus ran over him, killing him on the spot, while his uncle sustained minor injuries, said the police.

The jurisdictional Halasuru Gate Traffic Police have registered a case and seized the bus.

This is the fifth fatal accident involving BMTC buses reported in the last one week .

The BMTC, taking cognisance of the series of accidents, intensified its road safety initiatives , including mandatory training for its 9,000 drivers and those from private electric bus operators, conducted in batches at BMTC zonal offices and Vaddarahalli's training center.

Another incident

In a separate accident, a 22-year-old security guard from Bihar was killed and a bike taxi rider was injured after a speeding truck hit the rear of their two-wheeler. The incident occurred near Krishnananda Nagar Junction in Rajarajeshwari Nagar Traffic Police Station limits on Sunday.

The police said Sanjiv Kumar, a resident of Peenya, had finished his work and booked a bike taxi to return home. Around 2 a.m., near Krishnananda Nagar Junction, a speeding truck rammed into the scooter. Kumar lost control fell on the road and was run over by a truck. The bike taxi rider sustained injuries to his legs.

The Rajarajeshwari Nagar Traffic Police have registered a case and are analysing CCTV footage to trace the accused.

18-year-old injured in accident

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An 18-year-old boy was injured when he was hit by a truck in Maruthi Nagar on Sunday afternoon, leading to a snap protest by residents blaming poor infrastructure and rash and negligent driving by heavy vehicles. This came close on the heels of the tragic death of Tanvi Krishna who was on her way to school with her mother and sister and was crushed to death by a BMTC bus near Kogilu cross, Yelahanka on Thursday morning.

Sunday's incident occurred around 12.30 p.m. when the victim, Satyanarayana, riding a bicycle, was run over by the truck in Maruthi Nagar . The boy, stuck under the front wheel, was pulled out by passers by and rushed to hospital in an ambulance where he is being treated in the intensive care unit.

The Yelahanka traffic police detained the driver and seized the truck for further investigation.

Residents protested alleging poor infrastructure and bad road condition and increasing traffic volume.

Woman falls from flyover and dies after car rams two-wheeler; husband hurt

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Footage from CCTV cameras is being analysed to trace the driver

A 31-year-old woman fell to her death from a 20-foot-high flyover and her husband was injured when a car coming from the wrong side dashed against their two-wheeler on the Bachahalli Gate flyover in the Devanahalli Traffic Police Station limits in Bengaluru early on Sunday.

The deceased has been identified as Nethravathi. Her husband, Shivu, who owns a roadside tea shop, sustained minor injuries. The couple were residents of Banaswadi and have two children.

According to the police, the couple was heading to Chickballapur on their scooter to meet Nethravathi's mother, who had just been discharged from a hospital after an eye surgery, and to pick up their children staying at their grandmother's house.

Driver flees

Around 12.30 a.m., while riding near the Bachahalli Gate flyover, a speeding car coming from the wrong side hit their two-wheeler.

The impact threw Nethravathi off the flyover, causing severe head injuries. She was killed on the spot. The car driver had fled from the scene, the police said.

A case has been registered at the Devanahalli Traffic Police Station. Footage from CCTV cameras is being analysed to trace the driver and the vehicle's licence plate, the police added.

Four police personnel suspended in suspected custodial death case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Four days after the death of 59-year-old suspect in a theft case in the washroom of M.K. Doddi police station, four police personnel who were on duty at the time of the incident were suspended on the charges of dereliction of duty and negligence on their part on Saturday.

Habitual offender

The accused officials, ASI, Nagaraju, Constables Pratap, Lakshmi Narayana and Somanatha, were on duty when Ramesh was allegedly found dead in the washroom of the station on August 20 .

Ramesh, a habitual offender was arrested on the charges of stealing a donation box of a temple in a rural part of Channapatna.

The police had arrested Ramesh along with associates, Manju and Srinivas and taken them into two days custody for further investigations and recovery.

Ramesh reportedly went to the washroom and was found dead. The family members alleged that he was beaten to death and it was later made to look like suicide.

'No foul play'

Superintendent of Police, Srinivas Gowda clarified that it was a case of suicide and no foul play, and there was no dereliction of part of the duty.

However, sources in the department said that the suspended personnel failed to do their due diligence of ensuring security of the accused in custody, and following the SOPs while handling the accused, which resulted in the death.

The case has been referred to the Criminal Investigation Department.

(Those in distress or those having suicidal tendencies can call Arogya Sahayavani Ph.: 104 for help.)

New toll rates at two plazas on NH-48 effective from August 25

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has announced revised toll rates at Chokkenahalli and Kulumepalya toll plazas on NH-48 (Old NH-4), which will come into effect from August 25, 2025.

According to notification, the revised user fees will apply for the financial year 2025-26 and will be subject to annual revision from April 1, 2026, as per the NH Fee Rules 2008.

At the Chokkenahalli toll plaza, located on the Nelamangala-Tumakuru stretch of NH-48, passenger cars, vans, and LMVs will be charged ₹20 for a single journey, while two-axle trucks and buses will pay ₹70. Heavy construction machinery and multi-axle vehicles will be levied ₹110, and oversized vehicles (seven or more axles) will be charged ₹130 for a single journey. Monthly passes for local non-commercial vehicles are available at ₹350.

At the Kulumepalya toll plaza, cars and LMVs will be charged ₹25 for a single journey, while two-axle trucks and buses will pay ₹85. Heavy construction machinery will be levied ₹135, and oversized vehicles ₹165. The local monthly pass remains fixed at ₹350. The notifications also specify concessions, including a 25% discount for return journeys within 24 hours

Ideathon 2.0 at SIMS

BENGALURU

Soundarya Institute of Management and Science (SIMS), through its Lakshya Entrepreneurship Development Forum, hosted Ideathon 2.0 and Eureka Business Plan Competition in collaboration with IIC, E-Cell IIT Bombay, and Young Indians on August 21.

Timings
BENGALURU

MONDAY, AUG. 25		
RISE	06:08	SET 18:35
RISE	07:41	SET 20:01
TUESDAY, AUG. 26		
RISE	06:08	SET 18:34
RISE	08:27	SET 20:35
WEDNESDAY, AUG. 27		
RISE	06:08	SET 18:34
RISE	09:13	SET 21:11

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	24
Mysuru	30	20
Bengaluru	29	20

Bengaluru Today
29°C The weather will be dry. Day will be slight warm. Night will be pleasant.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm. Night also will be pleasant. Short spell of light rain and thundershower may occur.

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2025
All rights reserved.

THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

Animal lovers, activists protest; demand effective measures for stray dogs in State

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Over a hundred people gathered at Freedom Park in the heart of the city on Sunday to highlight mismanagement of stray dogs in the State, days after the Supreme Court judgement on handling strays in Delhi.

On August 11, the Supreme Court ordered the removal of stray dogs from the streets of the national capital. However, in an interim judgement on August 22, the SC ordered the civic authority to implement the Animal Birth Control programme instead of relocating the dogs. The apex court also suggested changes in feeding exercise.

An animal lover feeding a stray dog during the protest at Freedom Park in Bengaluru on Sunday. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

KAWB nomination

In this context, about 150 animal lovers, pet owners, and activists took part in the protest and highlighted the need for immediate nomination of members to the Karnataka Animal Welfare Board (KAWB), in the backdrop of failure in handling the stray dog situation in the State.

Karnataka must report actual data on their failure to implement ABC in the last two decades and ensure balanced implementation of the court order, they demanded.

The protesters said that the issues extend to a deeper stratum, from feeder harassment cases to the deficiency of monitoring systems overseeing the accounts of the ABC (Animal Birth Control) clinics and the lack of them in the State.

19 districts

According to a release by the organisers, 19 districts in Karnataka don't have any ABC centres.

"Regulating feeding alone is not going to solve dog bites. There is a lack of ABC implementation in the State," said Sadhana Hegde, Sahavarthin Welfare Animal Trust, adding that there has been insufficient Budget allotment. She also noted that feeders are being targeted.

Deepak, owner of a community kitchen in Sahakar Nagar, underscored the relevance of community feeding.

"We undertake almost 200 kg of community dog food every day with over 120 volunteers. I encourage everyone to start communities, and a hyperlocal one at that," he said.

He further added that independent feeders need more support from the civic authorities.

The gathering addressed the potential reasons that had led to the programme's failure over the years, including poor budgeting and land allotment for ABCs, abysmal infrastructure, and the ideology of "animals don't matter."

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRP Act).
ISSN 0971 - 751X

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Amount being considered by govt. to support exporters

25,000 in ₹ crore. The government is considering these support measures for exporters under the Export Promotion Mission, announced in the Budget, for six financial years (2025-2031), according to sources. PTI

Application fees collected for 75 J&K Naib-Tehsildar posts

6.43 In crore. As per a Right to Information (RTI) query, each form is priced at ₹600 for general and ₹500 for reserved category. The money collected by the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board shows that over one lakh aspirants had applied for the posts. PTI

Number of students to benefit from breakfast scheme in Tamil Nadu

20 in lakh. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin said that the breakfast scheme is now being expanded to government and aided primary schools in urban areas across Tamil Nadu. Mr. Stalin recalled, separately in a letter to partymen, how the State had pioneered such an initiative. PTI

Number of Islamic militants killed in Nigerian airstrikes

35 The strikes were launched on four targets in the area of Kumshe in Borno state, near the border with Cameroon, according to Ehimen Ejodame, the spokesperson of the Nigerian Air Force. Boko Haram, a group of jihadis in Nigeria, is considered one of the world's deadliest armed groups. PTI

Share of Bihar electors whose documents have been received

98.2 in per cent. As per the Election Commission of India, there are eight days left for people to file claims and objections to the draft electoral roll of Bihar published as part of the intensive revision of voters' list. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

Follow us facebook.com/thehindu X.com/the_hindu instagram.com/the_hindu

How have deception techniques evolved?

What are AI-enabled X-Guard Fibre-Optic Towed Decoy systems? What are some other systems comparable to the X-Guards? How has Ukraine deployed decoys in its war against Russia? Do navies also employ countermeasures to protect warships? How has India fared with deception decoys?

EXPLAINER

Rahul Bedi

The story so far:

In contemporary warfare, deception has evolved alongside the increasing precision and lethality of modern weaponry. As combat platforms – from fighter jets and tanks to warships – become more sophisticated, so too have techniques developed to shield them from detection and attack. Over the decades, the traditional art of battlefield trickery has merged with digital-age innovations, incorporating decoys and countermeasures designed to confuse, mislead, or overwhelm enemy sensors and targeting systems. By creating doubt and sowing confusion, these decoys not only waste enemy munitions but also buy crucial time for the actual platform to evade or retaliate. Hence, decoys turn deception into a strategic asset as critical as firepower.

New forms: The INS Karanj submarine is equipped with a state-of-the-art torpedo decoy system. INS Karanj can launch marine commandos for special operations behind enemy lines. FILE PHOTO

How has India deployed decoys?

During Operation Sindoor, the Indian Air Force (IAF) is believed to have successfully deployed the AI-enabled X-Guard Fibre-Optic Towed Decoy (FOTD) system –developed by Israel's Rafael – on its Rafale fighters as part of their electronic warfare (EW) suite. Although neither the IAF nor official sources have confirmed the use of X-Guard, former U.S. F-15 pilot Ryan Bodenheimer told Indian media outlets that it was "the best instance of spoofing and deception ever seen." Confusion persists over how many, if any, Rafales were actually lost in a May 7 strike on Islamist camps inside Pakistan. The Pakistan Air Force (PAF) may have downed several X-Guard decoys – trailing about 100 metres behind each aircraft – misidentifying them as real targets.

Analysts believe the PAF's Chinese-origin J-10C fighters, armed with PL-15E beyond-visual-range air-to-air missiles, struggled to distinguish between the decoys and actual aircraft. Several missiles reportedly locked onto the X-Guards instead, leading PAF pilots to prematurely claim multiple shootdowns.

How does the FOTD system work?

Acquired via classified channels, the lightweight (30 kg), retractable, and reusable X-Guard mimics the Rafale's Radar Cross-Section (RCS), doppler velocity, and spectral signature across multiple radar bands. It can also replicate the Rafale's onboard electronic countermeasures – creating a convincing illusion for both human operators and tracking systems.

Its 360-degree jamming signal capability integrates seamlessly with the Rafale's SPECTRA (Self-Protection Equipment Countering Threats to Rafale Aircraft) EW suite. While SPECTRA manages threat detection, blocking, and onboard defensive measures, the X-Guard adds a trailing expendable layer, jointly forming a multi-tiered defensive shield. Following Operation Sindoor, the IAF is reportedly fast-tracking additional X-Guard unit acquisitions via the emergency procurement route recently approved by the Ministry of Defence.

Comparable systems include Leonardo UL's BriteCloud, deployed on Eurofighter Typhoons, Sweden's Gripen-Es, and certain F-16 variants; and the AN/ALE-50/55 series from Raytheon/BAE Systems used on the F/A-18E/F Super Hornet. Some of these systems can also be adapted for use on unmanned aerial vehicles such as on Israeli Herons or U.S.-origin MQ-9 Reapers, albeit with onboard signal processing and remote deployment modifications.

What about land-based decoys?

Ground forces too have long relied on decoys to mislead enemy Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance (ISR) assets and divert precision-guided weapons. Inflatable, radar-reflective, and heat-emitting dummy systems simulating tanks, artillery, missile batteries, and command posts are regularly deployed to bait strikes. From the 1991 Gulf War to the ongoing Ukraine conflict, such decoys have absorbed expensive munitions and disrupted offensive momentum.

With drones and loitering munitions saturating modern battlefields, these ground decoys have become increasingly sophisticated. Russia's Inflatech decoys can simulate entire armoured formations within minutes. Ukraine has deployed wooden and 3D-printed fakes to exhaust Russian drone and missile stocks. The U.S. Army too has trialled decoy vehicles to fool top-attack weapons like Javelin anti-tank guided missiles. China has also invested in camouflage and deception technologies across its ground forces.

In April 2025, the Indian Army issued a request for information to domestic vendors seeking physical decoys of its Russian-origin T-90S/SK main battle tanks to replicate not just its dimensions, but also its thermal and acoustic signatures to deceive enemy drones and munitions.

Navies too employ a layered suite of countermeasures, ranging from floating chaff and acoustic decoys to offboard active deception systems, to protect warships from missile and submarine threats. Among the most effective is the self-propelled Nulka active missile decoy, jointly developed by Australia and the U.S., that operates independently of its launch platform and mimics the radar signature of a much larger vessel, drawing radar-guided missiles away from their real target.

Ultimately, decoys – across air, land, and sea – have become indispensable to modern warfighting. For a relatively low investment, they deliver high-impact protection.

Rahul Bedi is a journalist based in New Delhi and Chandigarh specialising in military, defence and security matters.

THE GIST

During Operation Sindoor, the Indian Air Force (IAF) is believed to have successfully deployed the AI-enabled X-Guard Fibre-Optic Towed Decoy (FOTD) system on its Rafale fighters as part of their electronic warfare (EW) suite.

Ground forces too have long relied on decoys to mislead enemy Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance (ISR) assets and divert precision-guided weapons.

Navies too employ a layered suite of countermeasures, ranging from floating chaff and acoustic decoys to offboard active deception systems, to protect warships from missile and submarine threats.

What is the new Bill to remove PM, CM and Ministers?

What does the 130th Constitutional Amendment Bill state? Is there scope for misuse?

Rangarajan. R

The story so far:

The Union government has introduced the 130th Constitutional Amendment Bill, under which a Minister will be removed from office if they are arrested and detained for 30 days in relation to a criminal offence.

What does the Bill say?

The Bill seeks to amend Articles 75 and 164 of the Constitution that deal with the Council of Ministers at the Union and State level. It provides that a Minister, who has been arrested and detained for 30 consecutive days in relation to an allegation of committing an offence, which is punishable with imprisonment of at least five years, shall be removed from his/her office. They would be removed on the advice tendered by the Prime Minister/Chief Minister (PM/CM). If the PM/CM does not tender such advice, the Minister concerned shall automatically cease to hold office from the 31st day. If the PM/CM is arrested and taken into custody for 30 consecutive days, he/she shall tender his/her resignation on the 31st day. However, the PM, CM, or Minister can be subsequently appointed on being released from custody. It also seeks to amend Article 239AA with similar provisions for the National Capital Territory of Delhi. These amendments to the Constitution would require a two-thirds majority in both houses of Parliament for its passage. Similar amendments have been proposed to parliamentary laws that govern the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Puducherry. These Bills have been referred to a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) for scrutiny.

What are the existing laws?

The Representation of the People Act, 1951 (RP Act) provides that any person who is convicted in a criminal case and sentenced to not less than two years in jail, shall be disqualified from being a member of Parliament or State legislature for the period of their sentence and six years thereafter. Section 8(4) of the RP Act provided that with respect to a sitting member of Parliament or State legislature, such disqualification shall not take effect if an appeal is filed against such conviction. However, the Supreme Court in *Lily Thomas* (2013) struck down this clause as unconstitutional. It must be noted that the existing law only provides for disqualification for being a member of Parliament or State Legislature and not for being a minister.

In 2016, the Election Commission had recommended that the RP Act be amended to provide that persons against whom charges are framed by a competent court for an offence that is punishable with imprisonment of at least five years be barred from contesting elections.

What are the issues?

Firstly, it will result in elected representatives losing their position by mere police action even before the start of a trial. Secondly, it undermines the principles of parliamentary democracy where the elected PM, CM enjoys the power to choose their cabinet. Finally, it gives the Centre disproportionate power to initiate vindictive action against ministers in opposition-ruled States.

What should be done?

Criminalisation of politics is a malaise plaguing our democratic system. However, the issues surrounding the Bill need careful consideration.

Moreover, the Bill seems to try to address the effect than the cause. Reports by the Association of Democratic Reforms states that 46% of MPs and 45% of MLAs have criminal cases against them. It added that the chances of winning for a candidate with a criminal background was 15.4% as against just 4.4% for a candidate with a clean background. An appropriate step then would be to not field candidates who have criminal records. Parties should instil this self-discipline rather than provide tickets to tainted candidates on the ground of 'winnability'.

Rangarajan.R is a former IAS officer and author of 'Courseware on Polity Simplified'.

THE GIST

The Bill seeks to amend Articles 75 and 164 of the Constitution that deal with the Council of Ministers at the Union and State level.

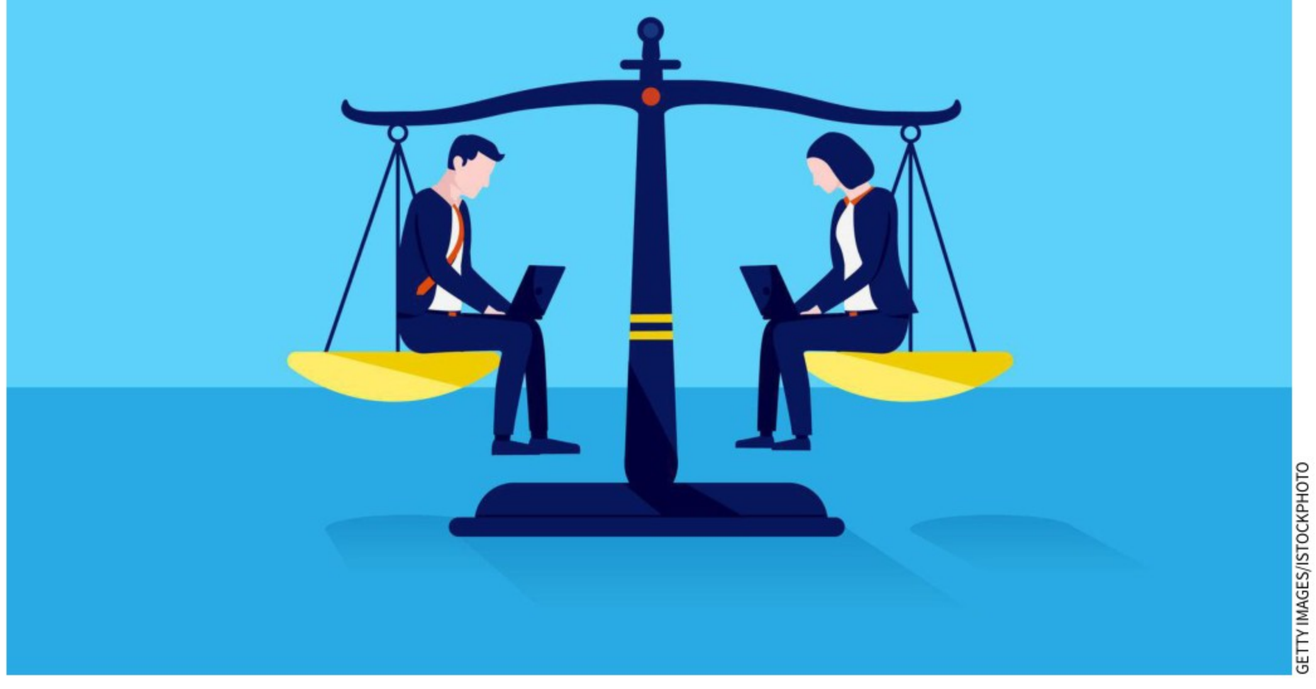
In 2016, the Election Commission had recommended that the RP Act be amended to provide that persons against whom charges are framed by a competent court for an offence that is punishable with imprisonment of at least five years be barred from contesting elections.

Criminalisation of politics is a malaise plaguing our democratic system.

EDUCATIONPLUS

No room for bias

Why gender justice must be embedded in India's campuses



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Pavithra M.B.

In an academic campus, one hopes to see equality sitting as an honoured guest in every classroom, and liberty walking without fear along every corridor. Education should be the great equaliser. Yet, in our campuses, who speaks, who is silenced, and who is invisibilised is still decided by prejudice – sometimes wearing the old mask of tradition, sometimes the new mask of "concern".

Early beginnings

The seeds of exclusion are sown early. At school, a girl may be applauded in class, yet denied a chance at the sports meet; not because of lack of skill but because someone has ruled "it's not for her". By the time she reaches college, another invisible wall rises: that of "appropriate" choices. Certain courses – those promising professional advancement – are branded unsuitable, not by syllabus, but by parental caution masquerading as care. The lofty phrase "self-determination", recited in Civics lessons, bends before the imagined ledger of marriage prospects.

Even after admission, the terrain is uneven. Opportunities for internships, research, and cultural work vanish with the early home-in hour for women. Meanwhile, the guardians of safety – the security personnel and CCTV in isolated spaces and ill-lit paths – are either absent or unreliable. Cameras stand vigilant in crowded quadrangles but blink blind in lonely stretches.

Gender bias comes wrapped in everyday language usage too. A "lady topper" is introduced, but a man is simply "topper." Throwaway lines – "man up", "don't cry like a girl" – slip through unchecked, cementing stereotypes. For transgender and non-binary students, the refusal to honour pronouns is not mere oversight; it is a daily act of erasure.

The law has not been mute. The POSH Act 2013 mandates Internal Complaints Committees (ICCs) in every institution. The UGC Regulations of 2015 require awareness, transparency and prevention. The National Education Policy 2020 enshrines inclusivity as a pillar. Yet, these live in files, not in reality.

A college student said, "We had an ICC orientation once... I think it was sandwiched between a mehendi contest and a Zumba session." That is equivalent to locking the first-aid box in an emergency. Some ICCs are names on paper, unknown to the students they are meant to serve. Gender justice cannot be a perfunctory compliance; it must be the culture of the corridors.

Global practices

Elsewhere in the world, policy and practice walk hand in hand. In Sweden, every first-year student undergoes bystander-intervention training before attending a single lecture. In Canada, gender-neutral restrooms and inclusive hostel allocations are unremarkable facets of campus life, with forms allowing safe self-identification. In the U.S., pronoun options are as normal on exam forms as the student's name. Australia combines inclusive housing with mandatory staff training. The lesson is plain: gender justice must be built into the foundations of learning, not treated as ornamental architecture.

In India, adaptation need not mean imitation. Periodic campus surveys can map safety perceptions and unearth blind spots. We have some best practices followed in colleges, in which a professor began each class with a "gender minute"; a quick reflection on a gender-related issue. "It made me see the world differently," a student confessed.

What needs to be done

Intent must be matched by infrastructure: well-lit walkways, functioning CCTV in vulnerable zones, equitable hostel facilities. "Inclusive space audits", routine in Oxford and Melbourne, can be adapted here.

Language, too, must be cleansed of bias. Official notices, recruitment ads, and learning materials should speak the language of equality. Sensitisation cannot be a one-time event; it must be recurring, engaging, and campus-wide. Peer-led ambassador programmes can serve as the first door on which the students can knock on, often before they dare approach formal authorities.

Accountability must not be reduced to the ritual of an annual report. ICC findings must be reviewed independently, and violations met with corrective – not cosmetic – action. The worth of a university lies not merely in its stone facades or its placement statistics but in the citizens it shapes. A degree may certify learning; the courage to challenge injustice certifies leadership.

True gender justice is not sentimental charity; it is a constitutional duty. In a society as plural as ours, campuses are rehearsal halls for democracy itself. If those who walk out of our gates carry with them fairness, empathy, respect and gender justice, then the institution has not only educated it has civilised.

The writer is Associate Professor, PG Department of Human Rights and Duties Education, Ethiraj College for Women, Chennai.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Legrand Empowering Scholarship
An initiative from Legrand
Eligibility: Meritorious girls, students who are differently-abled, LGBTQ+, COVID-affected, orphans or have single parents and have scored 70% or above in Class 10 and 12 and have secured admission in B.Tech., B.E., B.Arch., B.B.A., B.Com., or B.Sc. courses whose annual family income does not exceed ₹500,000.
Rewards: Variable depending on category of students
Application: Online
Deadline: September 8
www.b4s.in/edge/LFLS12

Teach for India Fellowship
An initiative from Teach for India
Eligibility: Indian citizens or Overseas Citizens of India (OCI), who will graduate by June or July 2026 and are applying for the first time for the 2026 cohort.
Rewards: ₹25,344 a month plus benefits.
Application: Online
Deadline: September 7
www.b4s.in/edge/TFIF6

Kotak Life Insurance Scholarship
An initiative by Kotak Life Insurance Company Ltd.
Eligibility: Students from Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra who have got 60% or more in Classes 10 and 12 and are in the first year of B.Com and have an annual family income not exceeding ₹360,000 or less.
Rewards: Up to ₹30,000 a year
Application: Online
Deadline: September 7
www.b4s.in/edge/KLISP3

Courtesy: Buddy4study.com

More to read?
For more articles, columns and news from schools and colleges, visit www.thehindu.com/education

Gear up for a challenge

Uncertain about your career options? Low on self-confidence? This column may help

OFF THE EDGE
Nandini Raman

I'm pursuing a PhD at a reputed institute after clearing UGC-JRF. But prolonged mental health struggles, growing misalignment with the academic path, and persistent issues with my research guide have led me to consider dropping out, though I've been warned that this could damage my career. My family is also against the idea. Will quitting affect my career across all field? Are there meaningful alternatives outside the academic world? Anjali

Dear Anjali,

I am sorry that you are going through such a hard time! Please get the help you need to feel better and focus on that before you commit to anything else. Quitting your Ph.D. does close some doors in traditional academic research and teaching but opens others in policy, development, research, consulting, writing, and the corporate world. Your skills of problem-solving, writing, communication, and analytical thinking are sought after and the UGC-NET + JRF credentials are highly valued.

Meaningful alternatives outside the academic world lie in the development sector, think tanks and policy research bodies, media and communications, government service, and so on. Explore options such as being a research associate, policy analyst, programme manager, research journalist, curriculum designer, content developer and so on.

After UG in Biomedical Engineering, I am doing a Master's in Medical Electronics. My current programme doesn't offer any core company placements in healthcare. I'm not interested in IT. Should I pursue a Ph.D. abroad? What are the other options? Mageshwari

Dear Mageshwari,

Consider a Ph.D. abroad if you are interested in research and innovation in medical devices, biomedical signal processing, bioinstrumentation, neuro-engineering; are aiming for R&D roles in medical tech companies; or if you want academic or scientific roles in research labs, private companies or the government. Most roles in the medical device industry, clinical research, health technology, and digital health do not require a PhD. They value your technical background, adaptability, and healthcare focus.

Given your background, you are highly employable in the medical devices sector, healthcare technology, health tech start-ups, medical imaging, health informatics and so on. You can consider roles in NGOs and global health organisations such as WHO, PATH and MSF. You could also consider a Master's in Health Informatics, Biomedical Innovation, or Medical Device Design or specialised Diplomas in Clinical Engineering, Regulatory Affairs, or Quality Systems or focus on short-term courses in AI in Healthcare, Health Data Science, and Clinical Trials.

I am 23. While I scored well in school, I got distracted in college and didn't complete my degree. But through self-learning and internships, I got a job as an SEO analyst in the digital marketing field, which I enjoy. I've also focused on my fitness and am considering participating in gym competitions or exploring modelling/acting. I would also like to pursue a PG degree as a way of redeeming my academic record. However, people say 'prioritise one goal', but all these aspirations feel important. My current job helps support my family. But if I chase my dreams, I risk losing that stability. How can I move forward? Suryan

Dear Suryan,

You do not have to pick one thing forever. You have to pick one to focus on right now while keeping the others alive at a sustainable pace. You enjoy your current job and it is your financial base. Do not shake this safety net for now. Try to do your PG on the side, as it seems to be that which is making you feel stuck. Validate your intellectual side. Look for an online course that is globally recognised and offers part-time study options such as remote or flexible MBAs or Master's in Digital Marketing.

As far as fitness, acting and modelling goes, keep training, lookout for opportunities to showcase your skills. Success in this field is all about visibility and consistency. It doesn't happen overnight. Test the waters first.

Use the 80/20 principle: 80% focus should be on your job and and getting a degree while you earn; 20% can go into fitness and modelling. Over time, you can work out a new balance.

I have finished B.Com. and plan to do an MBA in Logistics and Supply Chain Management. What are the prospects? Abhishek

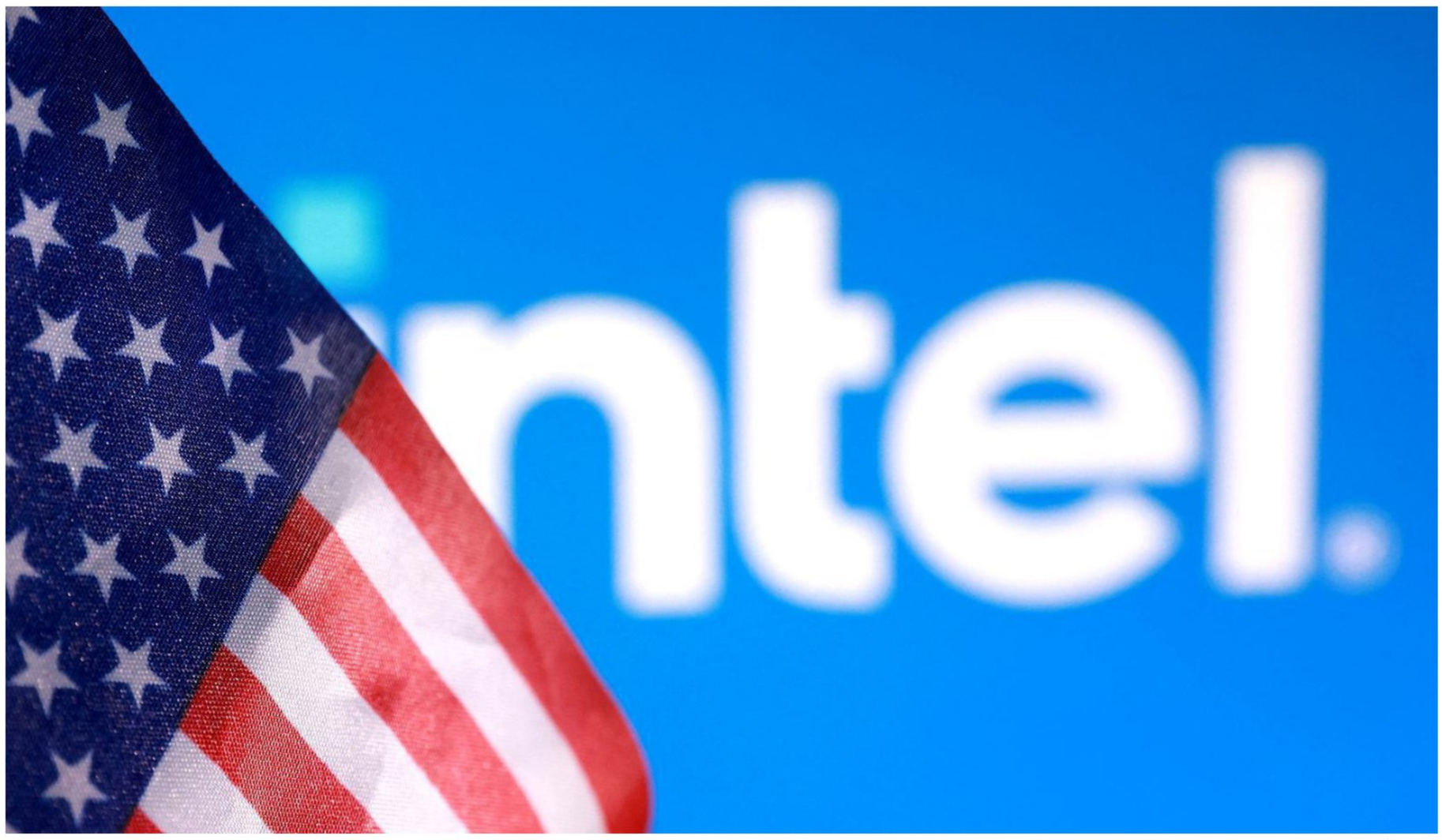
Dear Abhishek,

If you are interested in operations, systems, problem-solving, and coordination, this will offer fantastic opportunities. In the e-commerce sector, you could look at roles like an operations manager, and inventory manager. The manufacturing industry offers roles such as logistics planner, warehouse manager, procurement head. In the FMCG sector, you can look at being a supply chain manager or demand planner. In the retail area you can be a distribution or vendor Manager. In Logistics Companies roles such as freight manager, fleet manager, logistics coordinator will be open. In healthcare, options include being cold chain Specialist or supply chain risk manager. At the entry level, roles will be that of analyst, operations executive and logistics coordinator and it takes around three to six years to reach the managerial level. Supply chain roles are in high demand, and there are international roles as well at exports, imports, logistics hubs, and global operations centres.

Disclaimer: This column is merely a guiding voice and provides advice and suggestions on education and careers.

The writer is a practising counsellor and a trainer. Send your questions to eduplus.thehindu@gmail.com with the subject line Off the Edge

CACHE



REUTERS

Trump's Intel deal: how the U.S. is reinventing state capitalism

Washington's deal to take a nearly 10% stake in Intel is more than just a bailout for the struggling chipmaker; it is a striking symbol of a new era in American economic policy, one that bears an uncomfortable resemblance to European state capitalism of the 1960s

John Xavier

For decades, U.S. politicians have looked across the Atlantic at Europe's experiments with state-directed industry with a mixture of pity and scorn. The French model of *dirigisme*, with its state-owned champions and politically guided investments, was often held up as a cautionary tale of bureaucratic meddling and economic sclerosis.

Yet, in a move that turns decades of free-market economics on its head, the U.S. government is now a leading shareholder in one of Silicon Valley's founding giants. The agreement for Washington to take a nearly 10% stake in Intel is more than just a bailout for a struggling chipmaker; it is a striking symbol of a new era in American economic policy, one that bears an uncomfortable resemblance to the European state capitalism of the 1960s.

Uneasy alliances

The deal itself, announced by President Donald Trump, is an extraordinary piece of political theatre and financial engineering. The 10% stake in Intel will not be funded by new money, but through a clever conversion of funds already allocated to the chipmaker through the 2022 CHIPS and Science Act, which was designed to bolster domestic semiconductor manufacturing.

The current arrangement with Intel was born of a hurried rapprochement between the President and Intel's chief executive, Lip-Bu Tan. Mr. Trump had previously called for Mr. Tan's resignation over his prior investments in Chinese start-ups. After a meeting, however, the President's tone changed dramatically. It is a transactional, almost improvisational, approach to industrial strategy that has become a hallmark of the administration.

"I said, I think you should pay us 10% of your company. And they said 'yes' – that is about $10 billion," Mr. Trump told about his interaction with Intel during an Oval Office press briefing on Friday. "He walked in wanting to keep his job, and he ended up giving us $10 billion for the U.S.," Mr. Trump said.

This is not Mr. Trump's isolated venture. The White House has struck other unusual deals, including allowing Nvidia and AMD to sell certain AI processors to China on the condition that Washington receives a portion of the revenue. The Intel deal, however, marks the most significant direct equity stake in a major technology firm, prompting Mr. Trump to declare, "We do a lot of deals like that: I'll do more of them."

The parallel with 1960s Europe is compelling. Back then, governments in countries like France and Britain, alarmed by what was dubbed the "technology gap" with America, poured public money into creating "national champions" in strategic sectors such as computers and aerospace. The belief was that only the state had the deep pockets and long-term vision to build companies that could compete on a global scale. These policies, however, were largely unsuccessful, often resulting in uncompetitive, state-coddled firms that drained taxpayer funds and lagged in innovation.

Intel, once the undisputed king of semiconductors, now finds itself in a position that makes it a candidate for such state intervention. The company has been haemorrhaging money, posting a staggering operating loss in 2024, and has fallen technologically behind rivals like Taiwan's TSMC. Its struggles to attract external customers for its manufacturing arm, and delays in construction plans in States like Ohio have cast doubt on its turnaround strategy. This weakness made Intel uniquely receptive to Washington's offer. Foreign competitors like TSMC and Samsung, which are also building factories in the U.S. with CHIPS Act subsidies, are far too successful and valuable to entertain ceding a significant equity stake to Uncle Sam.

So, this is not a case of the government picking a winner, but of preventing a national icon – and a critical node in the domestic semiconductor supply chain – from falling further into irrelevance.

A new kind of state intervention

However, there is a crucial distinction between this new American interventionism and its European precursor. The government's investment is structured as a passive, non-voting ownership stake. Washington will have no seat on the board and no formal governance rights, and has agreed to vote with the company's board on most shareholder matters.

This suggests a more sophisticated model than the heavy-handed state control of the past. The goal appears to be to provide vital capital and a government seal of approval, ensuring the taxpayer shares in any potential upside from a successful turnaround, without succumbing to the temptation of political meddling in day-to-day operations.

Nonetheless, the risks are profound. The line between a passive partner and an influential stakeholder can blur, especially if Intel's troubles persist. Future administrations may not share the current hands-off approach. The government is now financially exposed to Intel's performance, creating a dangerous precedent where corporate failures in strategic sectors become direct liabilities for the public purse. This move fundamentally alters the relationship between the state and private enterprise in a way that could introduce new and unpredictable forms of political and market risk.

The U.S.'s foray into shareholder activism is a reluctant one, born not of ideological conviction but of geopolitical necessity and fierce technological rivalry with China. The long-held belief in the inherent superiority of the free market is giving way to a pragmatic, if uneasy, embrace of industrial policy.

The Intel stake is a bold experiment in this new reality. The critical question is whether the U.S. can learn from Europe's past, deploying the power of the state to nurture a strategic industry without smothering the competitive spirit that made it a world leader in the first place. The American taxpayer now has $10 billion riding on the answer.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

A quiz on Uruguay on the 200th anniversary of the declaration of its independence

V.V. Ramanan

QUESTION 1
Name the revolutionary group, led by Juan Antonio Lavalleja and Manuel Oribe, whose actions against Brazil ended in the foundation of modern Uruguay.

QUESTION 2
Apart from Brazil, with which other nation does Uruguay share its border?

QUESTION 3
What is the 'Orientales, la Patria o la Tumba' and why is it in the Guinness World Records?

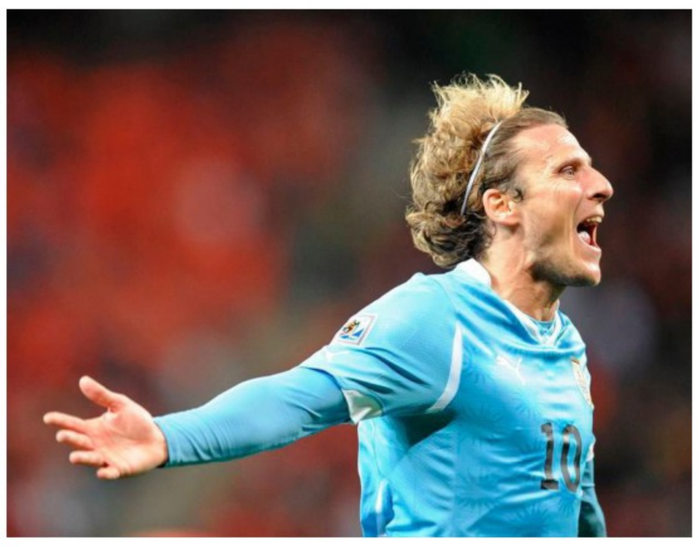
QUESTION 4
In 2013, Uruguay became the first country in the world to fully legalise what controversial industry?

QUESTION 5
The 'Maracanazo' is part of the football lore of the two-time FIFA World Cup-winning nation. What is 'Maracanazo'?

QUESTION 6
The name of the country is believed to originate from the Guaraní language for the main waterbody. What does it mean?

QUESTION 7
Known for its strong secular tradition, what is Christmas Day officially called in Uruguay?

QUESTION 8
What is the traditional plant-extracted drink often consumed from a hollow gourd with a metal straw called?



Visual question:
Name this legendary footballer who won the 'Golden Ball' for the best player of the 2010 World Cup. AFP

Questions and Answers to the August 22 edition of the daily quiz: 1. In 1989, this landmark decision led to a sudden increase in the number of voters in India. **Ans: To lower the voting age from 21 to 18**
2. According to the Constitution, the CEC can only be removed from office in the same manner as _____. **Ans: Supreme Court judge**
3. January 25 is observed as this. **Ans: National Voters' Day**
4. X is an independent verification printer machine and is attached to electronic voting machines. **Ans: Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT)**
5. In the ongoing SIR exercise in Bihar, this document was not accepted by the EC as proof until the Supreme Court directed the body to accept it. **Ans: Aadhaar**
Visual: This person designed the logo of the EC. **Ans: Amitabh Pandey**
Early Birds: Sudhir Thapa| Aditi Anandita| Navjot Singh| Saheni George| Vikash Kumar

KNOW YOUR ENGLISH

Her articles are always full of factoids

Don't be so sure of the promotion. There is many a slip between the cup and the lip

S. Upendran

What is the difference between 'fact' and 'factoid'? (L. Sudharshan, Nagpur)
The famous American author, Norman Mailer, is believed to have coined and used 'factoid' in his book on Marilyn Monroe written in the early 1970s. While a 'fact' can be verified, a 'factoid' cannot be. Mailer defines his new word as "facts which have no existence before appearing in a magazine or a newspaper, creations which are not so much lies, as a product to manipulate the silent majority." In other words, the original meaning of factoid was an unsubstantiated statement that is often presented as a fact in print. Over the years, the meaning of the word has gradually changed. A factoid no longer needs to be a printed statement; it can be spoken. It is a questionable statement that people are brainwashed into believing as being true because of the constant repetition in the media. Many of our politicians' speeches, for example, are laced with factoids rather than facts. Nowadays, the word is also used to mean a 'trivial fact' – an interesting piece of information which is of no significance.

Sashi wastes nearly four hours every day looking for insignificant factoids.

The statement that everyone in America owns a car is a factoid.

As far as the pronunciation is concerned, the first syllable is like the word 'fact', and the following 'oid' is pronounced like the 'oid' in 'avoid', 'devoid' and 'steroid'. The word is pronounced 'FAC-toid' with the stress is on the first syllable.

What is the meaning and origin of 'there's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip'? (Sankara Narayana, Hyderabad)
The word 'twixt' is the short form of 'betwixt' meaning 'between'; in fact, nowadays, many people prefer to say, 'many a slip between the cup and the lip'. This relatively old expression is mostly used to caution someone not to become overconfident about an enterprise. Although everything looks rosy right now, and success seems within reach, something unexpected may happen and ruin everything – the project may end up being a disaster and if it is a game, you might end up losing it. As our cricket commentators frequently say, you might end up snatching defeat from the jaws of victory!

The actors were certain that the shooting would go according to plan. The Director, however, cautioned them that there was many a slip between the cup and the lip. An hour later, it started pouring.

Sinner is the favourite to win the tournament, but there's many a slip twixt the cup and the lip.

upendrankye@gmail.com

Word of the day

Frigid:
extremely cold; devoid of warmth and cordiality; expressive of unfriendliness or disdain

Synonyms: arctic, glacial, icy, frosty, cold

Usage: *She welcomed him with a very frigid greeting.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/frigidpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈfɹɪʤɪd/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

GALGOTIAS UNIVERSITY

moves *up further* in the World Rankings.

QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS 2026 — RANKED 1201-1400

Ranked **15th** amongst Top Private Universities in India.

Ranked **43rd** amongst Top Private & Government Universities in India.

TOP RANKED BY India Today MDRA Survey 2025

School of Media & Communication Studies — Ranked 2nd in Uttar Pradesh

School of Hospitality — Ranked 3rd in Uttar Pradesh

School of Business — Ranked 3rd in Uttar Pradesh

School of Law — Ranked 4th in North India Amongst Private Institutes

Apply Today for Career Focussed 2025-26 UG/PG/DIPLOMA/Certificate/Ph.D. Programmes

UG Programs

School of Computer Science & Engineering
- B.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering (NBA Accredited)
- B.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering (Data Science)
- B.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering (Cyber Security and Digital Forensic)
- B.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering (Business Analytics and Optimization)
- B.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering (Computer Network and Cyber Security)
- B.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering (Data Analytics)
- B.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering (Cyber Security)
- B.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering (Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning)
- B.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering (Gaming Technology)
- B.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering (Cloud Computing and Virtualization)
- B.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering (Full Stack Development)
- B.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering (Internet of Things and Cyber Security Including Block Chain Technology)
- B.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering (Artificial Intelligence)
- B.Tech in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning
- B.Tech in Artificial Intelligence and Data Science
- B.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering - (For Working Professionals Only)

School of Computer Applications & Technology
- B.Sc (Hons) Computer Science*
- B.Sc (Hons) Computer Science (Cloud Computing)*
- B.Sc (Hons) Computer Science (Cyber Security)*
- B.Sc (Hons) Computer Science (Data Science)*
- B.Sc (Hons) Computer Science (Game Design and Development)*
- B.Sc in Cognitive Computing
- BCA*
- BCA in Industry Oriented Specialization (Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning)*
- BCA in Industry Oriented Specialization (Cloud Computing and Virtualization)*
- BCA in Industry Oriented Specialization (Computer Networks and Cyber Security)*
- BCA in Industry Oriented Specialization (Data Analytics)*
- BCA in Industry Oriented Specialization (Multimedia and Animation)*
- Integrated BCA + MCA

School of Artificial Intelligence
- B.Sc. in AI (Digital Twin and Extended Reality XR)
- B.Sc. in AI (Agentic AI - Autonomous Intelligent Systems)
- B.Sc. in AI (Agritech and Smart Farming)
- B.Sc. in AI (Robotics and Intelligent Systems)
- B.Sc. in AI (Healthcare and Bioinformatics)
- B.Sc. in AI (Data Science and Advanced Analytics)
- BBA in AI (Fintech and Banking Innovation)
- BBA in AI (Human Resource Management)
- BBA in AI (Digital Marketing and Consumer Insights)
- BBA in AI (MediaTech and Content Intelligence)
- BBA in AI (Supply Chain and Operations Management)

School of Engineering
Department of Civil Engineering:
- B.Tech in Civil Engineering
- B.Tech (Hons) in Civil Engineering (Smart Cities)
- B.Tech in Civil Engineering (Geographical Information Systems and Remote Sensing) (New)

Department of Electrical, Electronics & Communication Engineering
- B.Tech in Electronics and Communication Engineering (NBA Accredited)
- B.Tech in Electronics and Computer Engineering (New)
- B.Tech in Electronics and Communication Engineering (Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning)
- B.Tech Electronics Engineering (VLSI Design and Technology)
- B.Tech Electronics and Communication (Advanced Communication Technology)
- B.Tech in Electrical Engineering
- B.Tech in Electrical Engineering (Electric Vehicle)
- B.Tech in Electrical and Computer Engineering (New)
- B.Tech in Electrical and Electronics Engineering
- B.Tech in Embedded Sysytems
- B.Tech in Electronics and Communication Engineering (For Working Professionals Only)

Department of Mechanical Engineering:
- B.Tech Mechanical Engineering (NBA Accredited)
- B.Tech Mechanical Engineering with specialization in E-Vehicles & Autonomous Vehicles
- B.Tech in Robotics
- B.Tech in Mechatronics
- B.Tech Mechanical Engineering (Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning)
- B.Tech Mechanical Engineering (For Working Professionals Only)

School of Defence Technology
B.Tech / M.Tech in Defence Technology with specialisations in:
- Aerospace Technology
- Communication Systems & Sensors
- AI & Cyber Security
- Directed Energy Technology

School of Business
Department of Management
- BBA*
- BBA Business Analytics*
- BBA Marketing and Automobile Management*
- BBA Digital Marketing
- BBA with ACCA
- Integrated MBA (BBA with MBA)

Department of Finance
- BBA Banking, Financial Services and Insurance*

School of Aviation, Logistics & Tourism Management
- BBA Aviation Management*
- BBA Logistics and Supply Chain Management*
- BBA (Tourism & Travel)*

School of Liberal Education
- BA (Hons.) in Psychology*
- BA (Hons.) in Economics*
- BA (Hons.) in Political Science*
- BA (Hons.) in Sociology*
- BA (Hons.) in Liberal Arts
- BA (Hons.) in Social Work
- BA (Hons.) in Public Policy & Governance
- B.Sc (Hons. with Research) in Economics

School of Languages
- BA (Hons) Japanese
- BA (Hons) French
- BA (Hons) English*

School of Finance & Commerce
- B.Com. (Hons)*
- B.Com. (Hons) International Accounting and Finance*
- B.Com (Hons) Applied Finance and Analytics*
- B.Com (Hons) Financial Markets*
- BBA Financial Investment Analysis*

School of Basic Sciences
- B.Sc. (Hons) Chemistry*
- B.Sc. (Hons) Mathematics*
- B.Sc. (Hons.) Physics*
- B.Sc (General) PCM*
- B.Sc. (Hons.) Statistics & Data Science*
- B.Sc. (Hons.) Mathematics with Specialization in Computational Mathematics*
- B.Sc. (Hons.) in Climate Change and Sustainability*
- B.Sc. (Hons.) in Chemistry with Specialization in Synthetic Chemistry*
- B.Sc. Honours in Green Hydrogen*

School of Biosciences & Technology
Department of Biotechnology & Bioengineering
- B.Tech in Biotechnology
- B.Tech in Biomedical Engineering
- B.Tech Chemical and Biochemical Engineering

Department of Life Sciences
- B.Sc (General) ZBC*
- B.Sc (Hons) Biomedical Science*
- B.Sc (Hons) in Microbiology*
- B.Sc (Hons) in Zoology*
- B.Sc (Hons) Biochemistry*
- B.Sc (Hons) Biological Science*
- B.Sc. (Hons) Biotechnology*

Department of Food Technology
- B.Sc in Food Science and Dietetics*
- B.Tech in Food Technology

Department of Biomedical Sciences
- B.Sc in Healthcare and Clinical Research*
- B.Sc in Medical Biotechnology*
- B.Sc. in Clinical Nutrition & Dietetics*
- B.Sc (Hons.) in Healthcare and Hospital Management*

Department of Forensic Sciences
- B.Sc. (Hons.) in Forensic Science*
- B.Sc. (Hons) in Forensic Science with specialization in Questioned in Documents and Fingerprints*
- B.Sc. (Hons) in Forensic Science with specialization in Forensic Biology and Serology*
- B.Sc. (Hons) in Forensic Science with specialization in Forensic Toxicology and Explosives*
- B.Sc. (Hons) in Forensic Science with specialization in Cyber and Multimedia Forensics*
- B.Sc. (Hons) in Forensic Science with specialization in Forensic Physics and Ballistics*
- Integrated B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Forensic Science

School of Agriculture
- B.Sc (Hons.) Agriculture

School of Law
- Bachelor of Law (LLB) (Hons) approved by Bar Council of India
- Integrated BA + LLB (Hons) (approved by Bar Council of India)
- Integrated BBA + LLB (Hons) (approved by Bar Council of India)

School of Allied Health Sciences
- B.Sc Yoga Therapy
- Bachelor of Physiotherapy
- B.Sc Medical Lab Technology
- B.Sc In Anaesthesia and Operation Theatre Technology. (New)
- Bachelor of Optometry
- B.Sc Cardiovascular Technology
- B.Sc in Medical Radiology & Imaging Technology (BMRIT)

School of Medical and Allied Sciences
- Bachelor of Pharmacy (Approved by Pharmacy Council of India) (NBA Accredited)

School of Nursing
- B.Sc. in Nursing (approved by Indian Nursing Council)

School of Media & Communication Studies
- BA (Hons.) in Digital Media and Communication (in association with India Today Media Institute)
- BA Journalism and Mass Communication*
- BA Journalism and Media
- BA Film Production and Theatre*
- BA Strategic Communication*
- B.Sc. Cinema in association with GKFTII

School of Hospitality
- Bachelor of Hotel Management
- B.Sc. Hotel Management*
- B.Sc. in Culinary Arts*
- BBA in Hospitality and Service Management

School of Design
- Bachelor of Design (Fashion Design) (In Association with GKFTII)
- Bachelor of Interior & Spatial Design
- Bachelor of Design in Advertising, Graphics & Web Design
- Bachelor of Design (Communication Design)
- Bachelor of Design (Product Design)
- B.Sc. Fashion Design (In Association with GKFTII)

School of Education
- B.Ed. (approved by National Council for Teacher Education)

School of Vocational Education
- Bachelor of Vocation in Telecom
- Bachelor of Vocation in Electronic Manufacturing
- Bachelor of Vocation in Agriculture Processing
- Bachelor of Vocation in Graphic Design & Multimedia Technologies
- Bachelor of Vocation in Retail Management
- Bachelor of Vocation in Building and Construction Technology
- Bachelor of Vocation in Food Processing
- Bachelor of Vocation in Hospitality and Tourism
- Bachelor of Vocation in Automobile Manufacturing
- Bachelor of Vocation in Logistics Management
- Bachelor of Vocation in Banking and Financial Services and Insurance
- Bachelor of Vocation in Medical Lab Technology
- Bachelor of Vocation in Health Care Management
- Bachelor of Vocation (Multimedia and Visual Communication) in association with Ecole Intuit Lab
- Bachelor of Vocation (Multimedia and Digital Product Design) in association with Ecole Intuit Lab
- Bachelor of Vocation (Multimedia and Game Art and Design) in association with Ecole Intuit Lab

*For selected 3 Year Undergraduate programs, you have the option to continue for 4th year to obtain an Honours with Research Degree.

PG Programs

School of Computer Science & Engineering
- M.Tech in Data Science
- M.Tech in Computer Science Engineering
- M.Tech in Computer Science Engineering- Cyber Security
- M.Tech in Computer Science Engineering- Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning
- M.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering - Cyber Security (For Working Professionals Only)
- M.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering - Data Science (For Working Professionals Only)
- M.Tech in Computer Science Engineering - (For Working Professionals Only)
- M.Tech in Computer Science Engineering - Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning - (For Working Professionals Only)

School of Computer Applications & Technology
- M.Sc. in Computer Science
- MSc. in Data Science
- MCA
- MCA (Industry Oriented Specialization in Web Designing & Security)
- MCA (Industry Oriented Specialization in Cloud Computing)
- MCA (Industry Oriented Specialization in Computer Network & Cyber Security)
- MCA (Industry Oriented Specialization in Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning)
- MCA (Industry Oriented Specialization in Data Analytics)

School of Engineering
Department of Civil Engineering:
- M.Tech in Geotechnical Engineering
- M.Tech in Structural Engineering
- M.Tech in Transportation Engineering
- M.Tech in Structural Engineering (For Working Professionals Only)
- M.Tech in Transportation Engineering (For Working Professionals Only)

Department of Electrical, Electronics & Communication Engineering
- M.Tech in Power System Engineering
- M.Tech in Communication Engineering (Satellite Communication)
- M.Tech Electronics Engineering (VLSI Design and Technology)
- M.Tech Electronics and Communication (Advanced Communication Technology)
- M.Tech in Power System Engineering (For Working Professionals Only)

Department of Mechanical Engineering:
- M.Tech in Industrial & Production Engineering
- M.Tech in Mechanical Engineering (CAD/CAM & Robotics)

School of Business
Department of Management
- MBA Dual Specialization (NBA accredited)
- MBA (Digital Marketing)
- MBA in Healthcare Management
- Post-Graduate Diploma in Advanced Sustainability Practices and Innovations
- Post-Graduate Diploma in Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Practices
- Post-Graduate Diploma in Strategic Entrepreneurship
- Post-Graduate Diploma in Advanced Entrepreneurship and Venture Development

School of Aviation, Logistics & Tourism Management
- MBA (Aviation Management)
- MBA (Logistics and Supply Chain Management)
- MBA Tourism & Travel Management

School of Liberal Education
- MA in Psychology
- MA in Economics
- MA in Political Science
- MA in Sociology
- MA in Social Work
- MA in Politics and International relations
- M.Sc. in Cognitive Sciences, Learning & Technology
- MA in Public Policy
- PG Diploma in Counselling Psychology

School of Languages
- MA in Linguistics
- MA in French
- MA in English

School of Finance & Commerce
- M.Com
- Master of Finance and Control
- MBA Financial Management

School of Basic Sciences
- M.Sc. in Physics
- M.Sc. in Chemistry
- M.Sc. in Mathematics
- M.Sc. in Sustainability
- M.Sc. in Green Hydrogen

School of Biosciences And Technology
Department of Life Sciences
- M.Sc. in Biotechnology
- M.Sc in Biological Science
- M.Sc in Microbiology
- M.Sc in Biochemistry
- M.Sc in Biomedical Science
- M.Sc in Zoology

Department of Food Technology
- M.Sc in Food Safety and Quality Assurance

Department of Biomedical Sciences
- M.Sc in Healthcare and Clinical Research
- M.Sc. in Medical Biotechnology
- M.Sc in Food Science and Dietetics
- M.Sc. in Clinical Nutrition & Dietetics
- M.Sc in Industrial Biotechnology
- M.Sc Neuroscience with specialization in Cognitive Computing
- M.Sc Nanoscience and Technology

Department of Forensic Sciences
- M.Sc. in Forensic Science
- M.Sc. in Forensic Science with specialization in Questioned Documents and Fingerprints
- M.Sc. in Forensic Science with specialization in Forensic Biology and Serology
- M.Sc. in Forensic Science with specialization in Forensic Toxicology and Explosives
- M.Sc. in Forensic Science with specialization in Cyber and Multimedia Forensics
- M.Sc. in Forensic Science with specialization in Forensic Physics and Ballistics
- Post-Graduate Diploma in Questioned Documents and Fingerprints
- Post-Graduate Diploma in Crime Scene Management
- Post-Graduate Diploma in Forensic Photography
- Post-Graduate Diploma in Forensic Toxicology and Explosives
- Post-Graduate Diploma in Forensic Biology and Serology
- Post-Graduate Diploma in Forensic Ballistics
- Post-Graduate Diploma in Multimedia Forensics
- Post-Graduate Diploma in Cyber and Digital Forensics

Department of Biotechnology & Bioengineering
- M.Tech Biotechnology & Biochemical Engineering
- M.Tech Biomedical Engineering

School of Agriculture
- M.Sc (Agriculture) Agronomy
- M.Sc (Agriculture) Entomology
- M.Sc (Agriculture) Soil Science
- M.Sc (Hort.) Fruit Science
- MBA (Agribusiness Management)
- MBA (Agribusiness Management) in association with SARM
- MBA Rural Management in association with SARM

School of Law
- Master of Law (LLM) in Constitutional law and Governance
- Master of Law (LLM) in Corporate Law
- Master of Law (LLM) in Criminal Law & Criminal Justice
- Master of Law (LLM) in Environmental Law
- Master of Law (LLM) in Intellectual Property Law
- Master of Law (LLM) in Law and Emerging Technology

School of Allied Health Sciences
- Master of Physiotherapy (Cardiology)
- Master of Physiotherapy (Sports Medicine)
- Master of Physiotherapy (Orthopaedics)
- Master of Physiotherapy (Neurology)
- Masters in Optometry
- M.Sc in Cardiovascular Technology
- M.Sc in Medical Lab Technology
- M.Sc. in Medical Laboratory Technology- Clinical Biochemistry
- M.Sc. in Medical Laboratory Technology- Clinical Microbiology
- M.Sc. in Medical Laboratory Technology-Pathology
- M.Sc. in Medical Laboratory Technology- Clinical Hematology
- M.Sc (Yoga Therapy)
- MBA in Healthcare Management
- Post Graduate Diploma in Medical Music Therapy

School of Medical and Allied Sciences
- Master of Pharmacy (Pharmaceutical Chemistry) Approved by Pharmacy Council of India
- Master of Pharmacy (Pharmaceutics) Approved by Pharmacy Council of India
- Master of Pharmacy (Pharmacology) Approved by Pharmacy Council of India
- Master of Pharmacy (Regulatory Affairs) (Approved by Pharmacy Council of India)
- Master of Pharmacy (Pharmaceutical Analysis) (Approved by Pharmacy Council of India)
- MBA in Pharmaceutical Management

School of Media & Communication Studies
- M.A in Journalism and Mass Communication
- M.Sc. Cinema (In Association with GKFTII)

School of Design
- M.Sc. In Fashion Design (In Association with GKFTII)
- M.Des. in Interaction Design
- M.Des. in Interior and Spatial Design
- M.Des. in Design Research & Insights

School of Education
- M.Ed (approved by National Council for Teacher Education)

School of Vocational Education
- MA Child Psychology (Internship/ Apprenticeship Embedded)

Certificate Programs

Department of Forensic Sciences
- Certificate course in Social Media Crimes
- Certificate course in Advanced crime scene management
- Certificate course in Forensic photography
- Certificate course in Graphology and personality profiling

School of Media & Communication Studies
All certificate courses are in association with India Today Media Institute
- Certificate Course in Art of Anchoring & Presentation
- Certificate Course in AI in Newsroom
- Certificate Course in Events Management
- Certificate Course in Data Journalism
- Certificate Course in Media Graphics and Visualization
- Certificate Course in Integrated Marketing Communication

School of Languages
- Certificate in Japanese
- Certificate in French

Diploma Programs

School of Allied Health Sciences
- Yoga Instructor Course (YIC)
- Diploma in Advanced Music Therapy

School of Medical & Allied Sciences
Department of Pharmacy
- Diploma in pharmacy (D.Pharm) (Approved by Pharmacy Council of India)

School of Polytechnic
Galgotias Polytechnic
- Diploma in Computer Science & Engineering
- Diploma in Computer Science & Engineering (Network Essentials)
- Diploma in Computer Science & Engineering (Web Designing)
- Diploma in Computer Science & Engineering (Cloud Computing & IT Infrastructure)
- Diploma in Computer Science & Engineering (AI & ML)
- Diploma in Computer Science & Engineering (Data Analytics)
- Diploma in Electric Engineering (Electric Vehicle)
- Diploma in Electric Engineering (Renewable Energy)
- Diploma in Electronics & Communication Engineering
- Diploma in Mechanical Engineering
- Diploma in Mechanical Engineering (Electric Vehicle)
- Diploma in IC Manufacturing
- Diploma in Civil Engineering
- Diploma in Electrical Engineering

NAAC A+ Accredited University

Launched India's 1st and Finest AI led Active Learning Campus @ Galgotias University in consultancy collaboration with

InsPIRE at NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY SINGAPORE

G-SCALE GALGOTIAS STUDENT CENTERED ACTIVE LEARNING ECOSYSTEM
• Critical Thinking • Collaboration • Engagement • Experiential Learning

Record Breaking Placements	Living TEACH LESS LEARN MORE Pedagogy	Fostering Entrepreneurial Spirit. Cultivating Job Creators over Job Seekers	Being in NCR and close proximity to a major industrial, corporate and aviation hub; our students get the best of faculty and industry exposure, giving our students a distinct edge over universities located in other areas

TOP RANKED **BY TIMES ALL INDIA ENGINEERING INSTITUTES RANKING SURVEY 2025**

Ranked 13th	Ranked 11th	Ranked 12th	Ranked 8th
Amongst All India Engineering Institutes	Amongst Top Private Universities in India	for providing Top Placements PAN India	for Top Research Capability PAN India

GALGOTIAS UNIVERSITY

GALGOTIAS INCUBATION CENTRE
FOR RESEARCH INNOVATION STARTUP AND ENTREPRENEURS
Government of UP Recognized Incubator

- Launchpad for 100+ Promising Startups
- Several of our Startups are already generating revenue in crores of rupees.
- Over 30 Industry Partnerships & 80+ Mentors empowering startups with invaluable resources and expertise

For the complete list of programmes offered and to apply online visit
www.galgotiasuniversity.edu.in
9810162221 / 9582847072
9717300418 / 0120-4370000

#GetYourSelfPlaced

A BG-BGE

Chitradurga MLA remanded in ED custody for five days

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

K.C. Veerendra, Congress MLA, after his arrest by the Enforcement Directorate, in Bengaluru on Sunday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Chitradurga Congress MLA K.C. Veerendra, who was arrested by the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) from Gangtok, Sikkim, on Saturday, was remanded in custody for five days till August 28.

The ED arrested him after concluding raids on him and his associates on Friday at 31 locations in Karnataka, Mumbai, Goa, Sikkim, and Rajasthan in a case of illegal online and offline betting apps, registered under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002.

The accused was brought to the Kempegowda International Airport here on Sunday morning, from where he was escorted to Bowring hospital for medical examination before being taken to a judge's residence in Koramangala around 10 a.m.

After obtaining custody, he was taken to the ED office at Shantinagar here; his family members were not allowed to meet him.

During the raids, the ED said they had recovered ₹12 crore in cash, including ₹1 crore in foreign currency.

"Search has revealed that the accused is running several online betting sites in the name of King567, Raja567, etc. Further, the brother of the accused K.C. Thippeswamy, is operating three business entities from Dubai, through Diamond Softech, TRS Technologies, and Prime9Technologies, related to call centre services and gaming business of K.C. Veerendra Puppy," the ED said in an official statement.

Apart from the currency, the ED investigators also recovered gold jewellery worth ₹6 crore and silver articles weighing approximately 10 kg. Four vehicles were also impounded under the provisions of the PMLA, 2002.

"Further, 17 bank accounts and two bank lockers were also frozen. Many property-related documents were also seized from the premises of his brother, K.C. Nagaraj and his son, Pruthvi N. Raj. Several incriminating documents were also seized from several premises. Further, it was revealed that Veerendra had travelled to Gangtok on a business visit to lease a land casino," the ED said.

DKS colleagues join forces against him over his singing RSS anthem

Satish Jarkiholi says that if that was what one needed to do to become Chief Minister, he would have sung it too

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU/YADGIR

Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar at the 'Vote Adhikar Yatra' organised under the leadership of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi at Araria, Bihar on Sunday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The debate over Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar's surprise chanting of RSS's anthem on the floor of the Assembly in the recently concluded legislature session continues.

While K.N. Rajanna, former Minister, took exception to the public postures of the Deputy Chief Minister, Public Works Minister Satish Jarkiholi took a dig at Mr. Shivakumar.

Both leaders are known followers of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and after a lull, the shadow boxing between the two camps seems to have emerged again.

In another development, without referring to any individual, RDPR Minister Priyank Kharge termed the RSS not only dangerous to the Congress but also to the country. All these remarks came while Mr. Shivakumar is participating in the 'Vote Adhikar Yatra' led by Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, in Bihar.

Rajanna's jibe

On Sunday, Mr. Rajanna, who was sacked from the Ministry at the beginning of the legislature session over his statements that indirectly questioned Mr. Gandhi's campaign on "vote theft", took exception. "They can do anything. He (Mr. Shivakumar) can share the stage with Amit Shah and Sadguru and he can chant the RSS anthem. He can accept the invitation and attend along with his family members the wedding in the family of Mukesh Ambani, an invitation that Rahul Gandhi thought twice whether to accept. People are watching."

"On the other hand, we cannot convene a meeting of legislators or Ministers. We will speak when the time comes," he said.

Jarkiholi's response

In Yadgir, Mr. Jarkiholi sarcastically replied to scribes, saying that "if singing the RSS anthem is enough for one to become the Chief Minister, MLA Channareddy and I would have sung it too."

His response came to a question on Mr. Shivakumar singing 'Namaste Sada Vatsale' in the session.

Mr. Jarkiholi said that "he (Mr. Shivakumar) is well acquainted with Sanskrit language and sang it on that occasion.

Priyank targets RSS

Mr. Kharge took off against the RSS in a post on social media platform 'X' on Sunday saying, "Every patriot has to understand that the RSS, which did not accept the Constitution and burnt it, did not respect the national flag and women and considers the oppressed classes as third class citizens of the country, is not only dangerous to the Congress but a threat to the unity of the country."

Neither the BJP nor the RSS can list 10 contributions to the country in 100 years, of existence of RSS, he added.

He said that if the country had to mature and flourish, every citizen had to take a oath that even the air that touched the RSS should not touch them.

"Congress always sees RSS, which covers itself with communal hatred, propagates Nazism, Manusmriti and varna based atrocities, as its enemy."

He continued: "It is because RSS is an enemy of the constitution, unity of the nation, national flag and national anthem."

Leaders like B.R. Ambedkar and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel had warned against the RSS and their message had to be taken seriously, Mr. Kharge added.

"Patel who had anticipated the dangers from the Sangh Parivar had imposed a ban on RSS then. However, after enacting a drama of pledging support to the Constitution and the national flag, the RSS continued its anti-Constitution stance," he charged.

Centre promises to engage with U.S. regarding curbs on areca leaf sheath-based biodegradable dinnerware

B.S. Satish Kumar
BENGALURU

Experts claim the global market for areca-based dinnerware is currently valued at approximately ₹3,500 crore. FILE PHOTO

The Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry has promised help to experts from Karnataka who had sought the Centre's intervention over the restrictions imposed by U.S. authorities on the import of areca leaf sheath-based biodegradable dinnerware.

Import alert

The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued an import alert on May 8, imposing restrictions on biodegradable dinnerware made from arecanut leaf sheaths, including plates, cups, and related products.

This had caused concern, as it would affect the prospects of areca farmers as well as entrepreneurs, since Karnataka is leading the country in these products. Over 100 people had written to the Centre on May 26 seeking Prime Minister Narendra Modi's intervention to lift the U.S. restrictions on biodegradable dinnerware.

Ambiguous claims

In the letter, the experts had alleged that such restrictions had been imposed based on ambiguous and unsubstantiated claims that naturally occurring alkaloids in the areca leaf sheath may migrate into food and may pose health risks.

They said the curbs would undermine a culturally significant eco-friendly industry, and affect entrepreneurs and farmers.

Responding positively, the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry has replied on July 1 to one of them, Darshan, a biotechnologist hailing from Karnataka's areca-growing region, who was coordinating with experts.

"With regard to your representation concerning the restrictions imposed by U.S. FDA on areca leaf sheath-based biodegradable dinnerware, the government of India is engaging with the US authorities to address various non-tariff issues faced by Indian exporters accessing the U.S. market," states the official letter.

"The government remains committed to safeguarding the interests of India's sustainable industries and promoting fair, transparent, and non-discriminatory trade policies and is fervently promoting 'Mission LiFE' to promote environmentally conscious industries," it stated, referring to the India-led global mass movement to nudge individual and community action to protect and preserve the environment

Earlier, in their letter to the Centre, the experts had drawn attention to the sizeable global market share of areca-based dinnerware, which is currently valued at approximately ₹3,500 crore, and a number that is projected to double by 2030.

Union Minister asks ICAR to expedite research on whether arecanut is carcinogenic or not

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

ICAR has been asked to conduct the research in the light of the World Health Organisation's statement which said that arecanut was carcinogenic. FILE PHOTO

Union Agriculture Minister Shivaraj Singh Chouhan has asked the Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) to expedite the research on whether arecanut is carcinogenic or not. The research team has been asked to submit a report within a time frame.

The Minister, who held a meeting with Union Ministers from Karnataka and representatives from arecanut-growing regions in the State, said that the ICAR had been asked to conduct the research in the light of the World Health Organisation's statement that said that the arecanut was carcinogenic, which had caused confusion.

A release said that the Minister observed that Indians had been consuming arecanut since time immemorial, and it was used in every auspicious occasion in the country.

Referring to problems being faced by areca farmers, he said a disease like "areolate mildew", which destroyed areca trees, was being addressed by scientific teams. The availability of clean planting material was also discussed, the release said.

The press note said that the Union Agriculture Minister informed that the government was seriously considering appropriate compensation to farmers for the heavy losses caused by viral infections.

Issues such as illegal imports of arecanut, moisture problems, and price differentials between small and large nuts were also extensively discussed, it added.

He promised that all issues would be resolved in a time-bound manner and that the interests of farmers and the arecanut industry would be fully protected.

CORRIDORS OF POWER

Debate on a high

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R. Ashok *(pictured)* claimed that the ruling Congress unleashed "tax terrorism" on all items and has not spared even liquor. In his remarks in the Legislative Assembly in the just-concluded Monsoon Session, the BJP leader said former Chief Minister S. Bangarappa had reduced taxes on liquor, as many labourers consume it after a day's work, which provides them "mental relief" and "helps them get good sleep". Adding a new twist to this argument, Basanagouda R. Patil Yatnal, expelled BJP MLA, said liquor consumers had staged protests during the last Winter Session of the legislature in Belagavi.

DKS' pet subject

KPCC president and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar *(pictured)* claimed in the Legislative Assembly that he has sound knowledge about decentralisation and issues surrounding it. Knowing well the pros and cons of decentralised politics, the Deputy Chief Minister said he had introduced the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill. He recalled the names of many leaders who had reached Parliament after serving in local bodies. He added that he had secured the highest marks in the subject of decentralisation in MA Political Science at the University of Mysore.

S. Suresh Kumar, Rajajingar MLA of the BJP, immediately said that Mr. Shivakumar definitely would have scored 200% marks in "applied politics" rather than "theoretical politics". As BJP MLAs began to oppose the Bill, Mr. Shivakumar insisted that he was "not doing politics in the development of Bengaluru."

Shifting loyalties

When elected representatives change parties, it is called defection. But what is the term when they shift loyalties between different leaders in the same party? So far, no one has coined a specific word for it. This seems to be the ongoing trend in the Shri Hiranyakeshi Sahakari Karakhane Niyamita in Sankeshwar in Belagavi district. The factory started in 1956 has 11 elected members. For decades, the factory's management was dominated by the late Umesh Katti, Hukkeri-based BJP leader and former Minister, and his brother and former BJP MP Ramesh Katti. Things changed after the death of Umesh. However, the defining moment was the defeat of Annasaheb Jolle, BJP candidate from Chikkodi in the Lok Sabha polls. He suspected that Mr. Ramesh Katti had sided with the Jarkiholi brothers, which led to the victory of Priyanka Jarkiholi, from Congress, in the Lok Sabha polls. Mr. Jolle then aligned with BJP MLA Balachandra Jarkiholi, and unseated Mr. Ramesh Katti from the Belagavi district central cooperative bank. The two leaders managed to win over most of the elected members of the sugar factory. However, in a few weeks, Mr. Ramesh Katti managed to woo them back, with the assistance from foe-turned-friend A.B. Patil. This, again, did not last. The directors went right back to Mr. Jolle and had a photo-op at his residence. Which way they would sway next remains to be seen.

Nagesh Prabhu
Rishikesh Bahadur Desai

BJP leaders head to Dharmasthala

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The BJP has taken up a campaign 'Dharma rakshanegagi dharma yuddha' under which its members are heading to Dharmasthala to offer moral support to the pilgrim centre.

Meanwhile, a convention was held here on Sunday where seers took part to express solidarity with the Dharmasthala's administration.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Sri. Varun Kumar's father late K. Venkataswamy Naidu purchased 3 (Three) DEMAND DRAFTS (a) 821082 dated: 14.11.2016 for Rs.9,00,000/- revalidated on 04.02.2017, (b) 821083 dated: 14.11.2016 for Rs.9,00,000/- revalidated 04.02.2017 and (c) 821443, dated 04.02.2017 for Rs.2,00,000/- from Andra Bank, Nellore Town Branch, Andra Pradesh State Branch in the name of OR in favour of Dewan Housing Finance Ltd. Whereas my client father Kilari Venkataswamy Naidu purchased these DD's for some settlement issue, however settlement was not successful, as such the above said DD's remained un-presented. My client's father died on 25.06.2024 leaving behind his legal heirs to succeed his estate, as of now the said DD's are misplaced or not traced. Now my client has presented Zerox Copies of the said D D's for cancellation before the Union Bank of India, earst while Andra Bank, Nellore Branch for reimbursement of said D D's in favour of client, in view of the same the Bank directed my client to take public notice in this regard, as such if any Bank/s or Financial institutions or any person/s having any such objections/s or claims shall be with documentary evidence, lodge their objections/claims within 3 days from today in respect of said DD's to the under signed or to my client address as stated below, failing which my client will proceed further with the bank for reimbursement in respect of the said DD's.

To: **Sri. Varun Kumar K**
S/o late Venkataswamy Naidu,
aged about 35 years,
26-1-337, NGO Colony, BV Nagar,
Nellore-524004, Andhra Pradesh.

Nellore / Bangalore
Dated: 25.08.2025

sd/-
Sri. Manjunatha
B.Sc., LLB
Advocate,
Address: No.53,
Kallappa Layout, Amruthahalli,
Bangalore-560092.
Ph.No.9845425570

Department of Health & Family Welfare
KARNATAKA STATE AIDS PREVENTION SOCIETY
Arogya Soudha, 4th Floor, 1st Cross, Magadi Road, Bangalore - 560 023.
Tel.: 080-2955 7021, e-mail : pdksaps@gmail.com

No: KSAPS/PRC/04/2025-26 Date:16.08.2025

INVITATION FOR TENDER
(Through KPP Portal Only) (Two Cover System)

Tender (Two Cover) are invited for supply of Viral load consumables to 7 NACP and 1 Non NACP Viral load labs under E-Procurement System. Details are available at e-procurement website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Last date for submission of tender on **15.09.2025 upto 5:30pm.**

DIPR/CP/JA/2438/2025-26

Sd/- Project Director
Karnataka State Aids Prevention Society.

KARNATAKA SILK INDUSTRIES CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
3rd & 4th Floors, Public Utility Building, M.G. Road, Bangalore – 560 001
Ph: 080- 25586550/25586402 Fax: 080-25587020, Email: info@ksicsilk.com

NO. KSIC/PD/M-EMB/01/2025-26 Date: 22.08.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP portal only)

Tenders are invited through KPP-Portal from reputed Firms who can take up the Job Work of MACHINE Embroidery Work on 500 Nos of plain dyed Mysore Silk Sarees for a period of Six Months. Tender Documents, details of the Notification, schedule terms & conditions can be downloaded from **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Last date and time for uploading the tender along with EMD of Rs. 35,000/- through KPP Portal is **25.09.2025 upto 03.00 P.M.** The Technical bids will be opened on **26.09.2025 at 03.30 PM.** Further details can be had from the office of the Undersigned during working hours or KPP Portal helpdesk: 080-46010000 and 080-68948777.

DIPR/CP/JA/2441/2025-26

Sd/-
GENERAL MANAGER(Proc)

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

In Loving memory of

Mrs. Elizabeth Therese
M.A. M.Ed, M.Phil
1953 - 2023

"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die."
John 11:25-26

Husband:
G. Antony Augustin
& Daughters.
Vellore

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES
To dedicate a space in this section, Please contact:
Bengaluru: 98455 29981,
Hubballi: 0836 - 2338600
Mangaluru: 0824 - 2417575,
from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Online booking: **www.thehinduads.com**
DONATE EYES - GIFT SIGHT

From Page One

Dharmasthala case: YouTuber appears before police

The Dharmasthala police had registered the case against Mr. Sameer in connection with a 23-minute video on the alleged mass burial matter, posted on his YouTube channel *Dhoota*.

The police said the video contained imaginary details, which were neither in the complaint filed by the 45-year-old sanitation worker nor in the complainant's voluntary statement recorded by a magistrate under section 183 of BNSS.

The details mentioned in the video also revealed the identity of the complainant, who had been given protection under the Witness Protection Scheme. Mr. Sameer had widely shared this video and had tried to instigate breach of peace, the complaint stated. Meanwhile, apprehending his arrest, Mr. Sameer had applied for anticipatory bail before the Dakshina Kannada Principal District and Sessions Judge Basavaraj.

On August 21, the judge granted bail while observing, among others, that there was no material produced by the prosecution to show Mr. Sameer as a habitual offender and the offence alleged against him was not of a grave nature.

Granting anticipatory bail, the judge directed Mr. Sameer not to abscond and tamper with prosecution witness by threats and inducements. He was also asked to appear before the investigation officer and cooperate in the probe into the case.

Wearing Tamil mask will not work in V-P poll: Stalin

Ideas, rather than individuals, should guide politics. Individuals are merely symbols. We must support pro-people ideologies, says the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

M.K. Stalin

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin said on Sunday that the BJP was adopting the "old trick" of wearing the mask of Tamil identity to seek support in the vice-presidential election, despite its government having acted against the interests of Tamil Nadu and its people.

"Ideas, rather than individuals, should guide politics. Individuals are merely symbols. We must support pro-people ideologies," he said at a meeting organised by the DMK and its allies to introduce INDIA bloc vice-presidential candidate and former Supreme Court judge B. Sudershan Reddy.

Mr. Stalin claimed that the Constitution was under threat and accused the BJP-led government at the Centre of reducing investigation agencies and independent constitutional bodies to being mere appendages of the party.

"We have a candidate who believes in India's foundational principles, such as secularism, federalism, social justice, and unity in diversity. Justice [retired] Sudershan Reddy, who has legally championed human rights and delivered landmark judgments to uphold justice, must win in the vice-presidential election to protect Indian democracy, the dignity of Parliament, and the Constitution," he said.

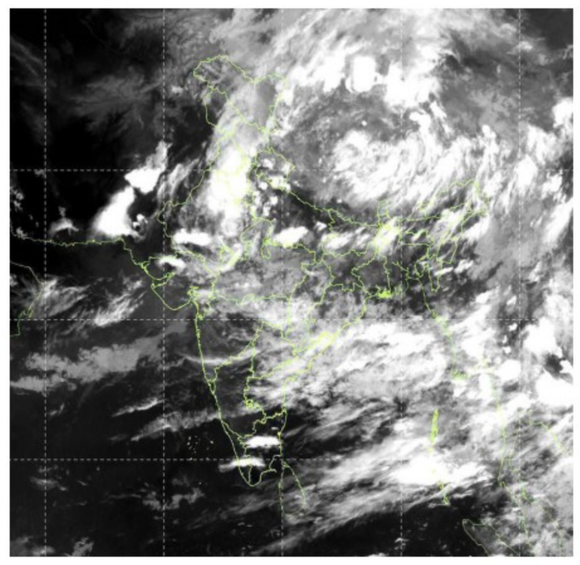
The Chief Minister said Justice Reddy would honour Tamil Nadu and the aspirations of its people, at a time when the BJP was allegedly attempting to dismantle the Constitution.

Recalling his earlier speech opposing the National Education Policy at the Tamil Nadu Progressive Writers and Artists Association, Mr. Stalin asked, "Do we need any further reason to nominate a candidate who has defended the Constitution and stood in support of the Tamil people?"

He also criticised Union Home Minister Amit Shah's remarks labelling Justice Reddy a Naxalite. "It is unbecoming of a Home Minister to make such comments. The BJP government has failed to curb terrorism and Mr. Shah's accusation against Justice Reddy is merely an attempt to deflect attention from that failure," he said.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 17.00 HRS)

Forecast for Monday: Heavy rainfall likely in Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu, Kashmir, Ladakh, Gilgit, Baltistan, Muzaffarabad, Jharkhand, Konkan, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, West Bengal, Sikkim and Uttar Pradesh

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	004.0	32.6	24.7	Kozhikode	—	33.4	25.4
Ahmedabad	055.0	29.8	24.8	Kurnool	—	32.2	23.8
Aizawl	001.0	31.5	22.2	Lucknow	016.0	32.7	25.9
Allahabad	016.0	27.6	25.4	Madurai	—	38.5	24.4
Bengaluru	001.0	28.8	20.4	Mangaluru	001.0	29.6	23.5
Bhopal	014.0	27.6	22.6	Mumbai	001.9	30.5	26.3
Bhubaneswar	003.0	29.6	25.8	Mysuru	—	29.8	20.0
Chandigarh	—	34.6	26.7	New Delhi	026.0	32.6	23.6
Chennai	—	35.3	26.2	Patna	010.9	23.6	26.6
Coimbatore	—	34.0	22.9	Port Blair	025.0	30.6	23.0
Dehradun	000.7	33.9	23.2	Puducherry	—	31.6	24.1
Gangtok	014.0	20.1	18.0	Pune	003.0	27.7	21.1
Goa	011.0	30.7	24.4	Raipur	—	27.8	23.8
Guwahati	000.3	35.3	26.5	Ranchi	028.0	25.2	21.1
Hubballi	—	27.0	21.0	Shillong	002.0	24.9	17.8
Hyderabad	—	29.7	22.1	Shimla	004.0	22.4	17.2
Imphal	001.0	27.8	22.5	Srinagar	013.0	24.6	17.2
Jaipur	089.0	30.6	23.4	Thiruvananthapuram	—	32.4	24.0
Kochi	—	30.4	25.2	Tiruchi	—	37.1	25.4
Kohima	009.0	21.8	18.6	Vijayawada	—	—	—
Kolkata	005.0	28.2	26.0	Visakhapatnam	—	32.3	28.1

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.49	7	.18	8	12	
Bengaluru	.12	..12	.32	28	...105	
Chennai	...2	..19	..—	56	...103	
Delhi	...9	..32	184	25	41	
Hyderabad	.17	..17	.13	82	...89	
Kolkata	...8	..87	.26	32	40	
Lucknow	.59	..12	.52	26	28	
Mumbai	.37	3	...2	64	80	
Pune	..—	..19	.90	15	31	
Visakhapatnam	.10	..46	.22	59	...102	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Dholpur, Rajasthan recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 115 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 15

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

No road for hospital transfer; child dies in Idukki tribal area as treatment is delayed

Sandeep Vellaram
IDUKKI

The lack of proper road connectivity has claimed the life of a boy in Edamalakkudy panchayat, a village in Idukki district of Kerala.

The five-year-old boy, Karthik, a resident of the Koodallarkudy settlement in the panchayat, had developed high fever on Friday morning. With no direct road connectivity, the family was forced to carry the child on a makeshift stretcher for 10 km through the dense forest to reach the nearest hospital in Mankulam. However, his life could not be saved.

The Scheduled Tribes Development department sanctioned ₹18.45 crore in 2022 for the construction of roads in Edamalakkudy, the first tribal panchayat in the State. Yet, proper roads still remain a distant dream for the nearly 2,000 Muthuvan tribal families living here.

The struggle continued even after the child's death. The local people on Saturday were forced to carry the body of the child in a coffin to reach the settlement. According to sources, the government had allotted money for the construction of the 12.5-km road till Societykudy, the village centre, in October 2022. However, even the first phase has not been completed. "The contractor is raising various issues, including the lack of resources, resulting in the project getting delayed," a source said. "Due to the lack of connectivity, we are unable to ensure proper ration distribution in the area," said Sanjaynath R., a civil supply officer at Devikulam taluk.

Suravaram Reddy's body donated

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The mortal remains of veteran Communist Party of India (CPI) leader and former party general secretary Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy were donated to Gandhi Hospital in Hyderabad for medical research on Sunday, as his family members and party colleagues paid their last respects. Earlier in the day, leaders from various political parties paid tributes at Maqdoom Bhavan in Himayatnagar.

Mr. Chandrababu Naidu recalled his long association with the CPI leader and their participation in various people's movements. He remembered Sudhakar Reddy's key role in national politics and their combined efforts in the formation of governments at the Centre.

Norms breached

Drawing ire: Followers of Home Minister G.Parameshwara have organised 'Paramothsava' to commemorate his birthday in Mysuru. Parts of the city are awash with cutouts of the Minister despite a ban on erecting them. Citizens bemoan that such violations have become frequent and vitiate the heritage character of the city. M.A. SRIRAM

Ex-MP's remark on Banu Mushtaq's choice for Dasara festivities invites Lad's ire

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU/KALABURAGI

BJP leader and former MP Prathap Simha has questioned the State government's decision to invite Booker Prize winner Banu Mushtaq to inaugurate this year's Dasara festivities atop Chamundi Hills in Mysuru.

'Any restrictions?'

This has attracted sharp criticism from Labour Minister Santosh Lad, who has questioned whether the Constitution had placed any restrictions on inviting Ms. Mushtaq or any person from a non-Hindu faith for the ceremonial role; he also launched a counter-attack on the former MP for trying to communalise the issue.

Pointing out that Ms. Mushtaq was a Muslim, Mr. Simha said the inauguration of Dasara function was carried out by offering puja to Goddess Chamundeshwari

Speaking to reporters in Mysuru on Sunday, Mr. Simha described Dasara as a "religious" tradition and not a "secular" event.

Pointing out that Ms. Mushtaq was a Muslim, Mr. Simha said the inauguration of Dasara function was carried out by offering puja to Goddess Chamundeshwari atop Chamundi Hills.

As a Muslim, does Ms. Mushtaq have faith in Goddess Chamundeshwari, he questioned. He recalled Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's earlier choice of writer Baragur Ramachandrappa who reportedly refused to enter the temple or offer puja to the deity.

However, the former MP made it clear that he had no objection to Ms. Mushtaq being made president of the next Akhila Bharata Kannada Sahitya Sammelana.

Minister hits back

Taking serious exception to Mr. Simha's statement, Mr. Lad shot back, "Is there any provision in the Constitution which says Banu Mushtaq should not be called to inaugurate Dasara? If we start objecting to everything on communal lines, where will it end?" Speaking to pressmen at Sandur of Ballari district, he highlighted the contribution of the Muslim community and pointed out that the Azim Premji Foundation had donated over ₹2 lakh crore for public welfare.

Drawing parallels

"Who has been the highest donor in the country? Azim Premji has given lakhs of crores for the benefit of the poor. Do we question his religion before acknowledging his contribution?" Mr. Lad asked.

Drawing parallels with other national figures, the Minister reminded that A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, a Muslim, had served as President and was universally respected.

BJP warns Pinarayi and Stalin over Sabarimala meeting on September 10

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

BJP Kerala State president Rajeev Chandrasekhar has cautioned Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin against attending the Global Ayyappa Sangamam at Pampa in Sabarimala on September 10, without apologising to Hindus.

On social media

In a post on X on Sunday, Mr. Chandrasekhar accused both the Chief Ministers of "insulting" the Hindu faith.

He said the event was "opportunistic politics", and tantamount to provocation. He warned them against underestimating the strength of "BJP karyakarthas and Hindus" in Kerala and Tamil Nadu to resist their presence at Sabarimala.

Rajeev Chandrasekhar

Mr. Chandrasekhar also demanded that Mr. Stalin and his son, Udayanidhi, apologise to Hindus and seek their forgiveness "if they wish to come to Kerala."

"Without this (apologies), if Stalin or Pinarayi tried to misuse Sabarimala bhakts or their faith and attend this programme, every karyakarta of @BJP4Keralam will come out and resist this," he wrote.

"Pinarayi Vijayan has imprisoned many Ayyappa bhakts, filed cases against many more, inflicted police violence against them and done everything to violate and insult the sacred traditions of Sabarimala. Stalin and his dynastic son have insulted Hindus by terming their faith a virus. These are deeply etched into every Hindu's memory and will never be forgotten or forgiven," Mr. Chandrasekhar wrote in X.

Both the Congress and the BJP had used the controversy concerning the Left Democratic Front (LDF) government's alleged "attempt to contravene Sabarimala traditions using the Supreme Court order as a pretext" for their central campaign platform during the 2020 Lok Sabha elections and the 2021 Assembly polls.

He said the Kerala government was "celebrating Ayyappa Sangamam a few months before the elections", and it was a political drama.

Kerala Congress leader stays put as MLA despite calls for resignation

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Rahul Mamkootathil, MLA and Congress leader in Kerala, on Sunday gave no definitive answer concerning bipartisan political calls for his resignation following accusations of sexual misconduct.

Mr. Mamkootathil, in a press conference at his residence at Adoor in Pathanamthitta, said he did not desire to push the Congress into a political purgatory. Congress workers "should not hang their heads in shame" because of him. Facing a volley of questions from pressperssons who have been on a stakeout outside his house for several days, Mr. Mamkootathil said the startling accusations had rendered him a recluse briefly.

"I am also a human being. Scores of party workers called me, some critical, others supportive and several deeply saddened," he said. Broadcasting scepticism about the accusations of inappropriate behaviour swirling around him, Mr. Mamkootathil reasoned that his stature as a frontline defender of the Congress rendered him a magnet for political enemies.

The MLA sought to make a case in his defence by airing audio clips and WhatsApp chats to support his claim that a journalist had asked leading questions to a "transgender friend" of his to ensnare him in a politically damaging conspiracy.

Mr. Mamkootathil disregarded questions concerning his visit to his Palakkad Assembly constituency, where the MLA faced a threat of boycott by Communist Party of India (Marxist) and BJP workers.

On Lok Sabha LoP

Later, Mr. Mamkootathil sought to draw a similarity between the attacks mounted against him and attempts to undermine the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi.

He posted a picture of Mr. Gandhi on social media with a caption portraying him as a survivor of disparaging attacks.

"They mocked him, they accused him, they attacked him in an organised way. They tried to bring him down. Those who once praised turned into critics. Yet, even after being stabbed, he fights on without complaints. Because for him, this movement is greater... Beyond positions and titles, he is a Congressman... Rahul Gandhi," he wrote.

Meanwhile,BJP's national handles struck by somewhat cynically playing on the similarity in Mr. Mamkootathil and Mr. Gandhi's first names.

Practising compassion

Underestimating the cost of animal shelters undermines them

The Supreme Court of India's proceedings on free-roaming dogs represent an earnest, even if inadequate, attempt to reconcile competing claims of compassion and safety. On August 11, the Court had directed the Municipal Corporation of Delhi to round up strays and confine them in shelters. Eleven days later, it changed course, permitting release after vaccination and deworming, and that aggressive or rabid animals be retained. India bears one of the world's heaviest burdens of rabies and anthropological accounts are clear that this threat shapes daily life, limiting children's movements and forcing families into repeated medical expenses. Rabies also disproportionately kills those least able to navigate the health system. While the Animal Birth Control Rules were updated in 2023, experience shows that without 70% sterilisation coverage, they are ineffectual. The August 11 order was significant because it acknowledged that the present framework, however well intentioned, is inadequate for India's dense settlements. Objections that shelters will be overcrowded and disease-ridden and that permanent impoundment will precipitate an ecological imbalance confront the same issues that undermine the Rules. Properly resourced and regulated shelters can be managed with veterinary standards, space norms and transparent oversight. India already maintains similar institutions for cattle on a large scale. But if canine facilities are in squalor – which may have motivated the Court to change course – it will be due to the same administrative neglect and policy fragmentation between States that have kept sterilisation coverage from crossing 70% in any major city, and which have been keeping alive fears of other species migrating into the ecological niches dogs once occupied.

Street dogs are woven into India's urban fabric, even offering companionship to the homeless. Such perspectives deserve a place in cultural discourse but cannot override the human right to access public spaces without fear of injury. Compassion is not annulled if dogs are removed from public roads; they must still be compassionately rehomed, sheltered and, when incurably aggressive or ill, euthanised humanely. A modern statute must replace the outdated Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960. It should classify dogs as adoptable, shelter-bound or unfit and mandate municipal shelters with minimum standards. Crucially, governments should count stray dogs across States and determine the true cost of maintaining shelters rather than chronically underestimating it. This system should also have the support of the national veterinary cadre, better waste management and penalties for abandoning pets. Without these measures, urban India will keep trading visible menace for invisible neglect.

Man-made famine

The world must stop Israel from annihilating Gaza through starvation

For months, international rights groups, aid organisations and doctors who served in Gaza have warned that the enclave was on the brink of famine. Heartbreaking stories and images of starvation poured out as Gaza's civil defence groups repeatedly told the world that children were dying every day due to malnutrition. But Israel, waging a genocidal war in Gaza for the past 22 months, dismissed these reports as lies, while its western allies did little beyond expressing token concerns. Last week, the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), a UN-backed body, confirmed that an entirely "man-made famine" is unfolding in Gaza's largest city and its surrounding areas, the first officially declared famine in West Asia. At least one in five households faces extreme food shortages, while a third or more of all children are acutely malnourished. The IPC also stated that at least two in every 10,000 people die daily from starvation or the deadly combination of malnutrition and diseases. Yet, if anyone expected such a devastating report by a reputed organisation to have had an impact on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's war-thirsty regime, they were mistaken.

Israel has long imposed restrictions on goods entering Gaza, that has been under Israel's blockade since 2007; it tightened those restrictions after Hamas's October 7, 2023 attack. But in March 2025, after Mr. Netanyahu broke a ceasefire, Israel imposed a total three-month blockade on all goods entering Gaza. When it began allowing a limited amount of food, a new U.S. and Israel-backed organisation, the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF) replaced the previous UN-led food distribution system. The blockade, along with Israel's direct control of food distribution, plunged hundreds of thousands into acute hunger. When desperate, hungry Palestinians rushed to the limited food centres run by the GHF, they were shot down by Israeli troops and GHF volunteers in the name of crowd control. The UN estimates that more than 1,300 Palestinians have been killed at food centres since May. Despite mounting international outrage and allegations of war crimes, and Hamas's acceptance of the latest ceasefire proposal put forward by Qatar and Egypt, Israel has intensified attacks on Gaza city in preparation for a new offensive. What is unfolding now in Gaza goes far beyond Israel's stated aims of defeating Hamas and releasing hostages. The growing body of evidence points to an intent to destroy Palestinian life and society in Gaza itself. The most brutal of crimes are being committed against 2.3 million people – in full view of the world. The world cannot allow Israel to continue devastating Gaza any further.

The new Constitution Bill, the need for a balancing act

Samayeta Bal

is an advocate, a former Legislative Assistants to Members of Parliament (LAMP) Fellow (2024-25), and, currently, a Parliamentary, Legislative and Policy Researcher

Moral integrity in the political class is a paradox that India has continually struggled with. While, on the one hand, the electorate demands moral rectitude in the political class, there has, on the other, been a pervading spectre of criminality prevailing in the political class. The proposed Constitution (One Hundred and Thirtieth Amendment) Bill, 2025, that was introduced in the Lok Sabha on August 20, 2025, is aimed at filling this vacuum by providing a condition. Under this, Ministers, Chief Ministers and even the Prime Minister must either resign or automatically be subject to removal if they continue to be in custody even after a consecutive period of 30 days in crimes that carry a maximum punishment of five years or more of imprisonment.

On the surface, the action appears to be a decisive initiative toward enabling cleaner politics. It touches upon the disturbing fact of corrupt leaders in custody holding on to power, a situation that has made people lose trust in governance. But there are political pitfalls and constitutional quandaries that lurk beneath its promise.

The foundation for this Bill rests on Articles 75, 164 and 239AA of the Constitution, which deal with the appointment and tenure of Ministers in the Union, States and Delhi, respectively. While Articles 75(1), 164(1) and 239AA(5) mandate that Ministers shall hold office at the pleasure of the President of India (or Governor), this "pleasure" has been judicially interpreted within the bounds of constitutional morality and legal propriety, as in cases such as *Shamsher Singh and Anr. vs State Of Punjab* and *Nabam Rebia And Etc. Etc. vs Deputy Speaker And Ors*.

Judicial pronouncements

The Supreme Court of India, in *S.R. Bommai vs Union of India*, underscored the role of constitutional morality as a guiding principle, thus pronouncing that democratic institutions must be nurtured through integrity and accountability. Later, in *Manoj Narula vs Union of India*, the Court directly addressed the ethical dimension of ministerial appointments, warning that individuals with serious criminal charges should not be entrusted with executive power. Although the Court stopped short of mandating automatic removal, it clearly signalled that morality is intrinsic to the constitutional framework. The Bill, therefore, draws strength from these pronouncements, seeking to give legislative form to what has long been a judicially recognised moral imperative.

But this Bill's very ambition may be its Achilles' heel. The most glaring issue concerns the principle of presumption of innocence, which forms part of the right to life and liberty under Article 21. To equate arrest and detention with grounds for removal, without conviction or even the framing of charges, risks undermining this foundational constitutional value. Section 8(3) of the Representation of The People Act concerns the disqualification of members on the conviction of certain offences. In the case of *Lily Thomas vs Union of India*, the Supreme Court held that a lawmaker, only upon conviction, immediately stands immediately disqualified. The three-month window to file an appeal and continue as a legislator was also struck down, thus providing jurisprudential support for stringent accountability even before the existence of the Bill. Here, it is important to note that disqualification begins only when someone is convicted, and not when someone is arrested or detained.

The problem is compounded by the Bill's reliance on executive discretion through the insertion of Clause 5A after Clause 5 of Article 75, Clause 4A after Clause 4 of Article 164 and Clause 5A after Clause 5 of Article 239AA of the Constitution. Ministers can be removed on the advice of the Prime Minister or Chief Minister, but automatic removal kicks in if such advice is withheld. This dual mechanism politicises the process: a Prime Minister may shield allies for 30 days, while a hostile Chief Minister may allow rivals to fall by the automatic rule. Instead of insulating governance from partisanship, the Bill risks embedding accountability in the shifting sands of political calculation.

The Joint Parliamentary Committee needs to carefully recalibrate the formulation of the Constitution (One Hundred and Thirtieth Amendment) Bill, 2025

Inconsistency in treatment

The inconsistency in treatment between legislators and Ministers further complicates matters. Members of Parliament and Members of State legislatures face disqualification only upon conviction under the Representation of the People Act. By contrast, Ministers under this Bill would be forced to resign on mere detention. This creates a paradoxical situation wherein a legislator convicted of corruption may technically continue as a Minister until disqualified under the Act, while a Minister only under arrest would be forced out. The asymmetry may appear to elevate the standards for executive office, but it also undermines consistency in the constitutional treatment of public officials. It risks deterring capable individuals from accepting ministerial responsibility, knowing that they face harsher consequences than their legislative peers on the basis of unproven allegations.

There is also the problem of the "revolving door". Because the Bill allows reappointment once a Minister is released from custody, there could be cycles of resignation and reinstatement depending on the pace of legal proceedings. Imagine a Chief Minister who is arrested and detained for 31 days, who is forced to resign, but later released on bail and promptly reinstated by the Governor. The State would have endured weeks of political uncertainty with little to gain in ethical accountability. Such instability may not only weaken governance but also incentivise tactical legal manoeuvres, where political actors use the law as a tool to manipulate executive offices.

Need for a more nuanced model

None of this is to deny the urgency of reform. The rise of criminalisation in politics is a stark reality. According to a comprehensive analysis by the Association for Democratic Reforms and National Election Watch of all 543 winning candidates in the 2024 general election, 251 Members of Parliament (46%) had declared criminal cases against themselves, up from 43% in 2019, 34% in 2014, and 30% in 2009, representing a 55% increase over 15 years. Yet, the bluntness of its approach risks undermining both the principle of fairness and the stability of governance. A more nuanced model would better serve the constitutional goal of clean politics without eroding democratic safeguards.

One pathway could be to link removal not to arrest but, instead, to judicial milestones such as the framing of charges by a competent court. This would ensure that only cases that pass initial judicial scrutiny trigger resignation, filtering out frivolous or politically motivated arrests. Another safeguard could be the establishment of an independent review mechanism, such as a tribunal or a judicial panel, to examine whether the conditions for removal have been met. This would prevent executive overreach and ensure impartial application. Similarly, instead of outright removal, the law could provide for interim suspension of ministerial functions during ongoing trials, allowing governance to continue without compromising accountability. Most importantly, the Bill should refine its scope to apply only to offences involving moral turpitude and corruption, rather than casting a wide net over any offence punishable with five years' imprisonment, which could include relatively minor criminal conduct.

In sum, the Constitution (One Hundred and Thirtieth Amendment) Bill, 2025, stakes out a significant normative position that citizens might welcome as a forceful stand against corruption and criminality. But its formulation elides the inherent tension between safeguarding democratic deliverance of justice and urgent demands for ethical governance. Unless the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) carefully recalibrates to incorporate due process and institutional checks – the Bill is with the JPC – it could transmute constitutional safeguards into instruments of political exclusion, testing the delicate balance of India's democratic experiment. For, in the long run, power without integrity corrodes democracy, and integrity without fairness endangers it.

Nourish to flourish, the nutrition and cognition link

Nina Badgaiyan

is Senior Public Health Expert (Consultant) at the Asian Development Bank

Namya Mahajan

is Co-founder at Rocket Learning

Imagine that you have a flight to catch at 2 p.m. Given the factors such as the distance to travel, the traffic conditions, and airport check-in time, you are likely to miss the flight unless you leave your house at 12 p.m. The hour between 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. is your critical window to make sure that you catch the flight. Similarly, for a child, the first 1,000 days of his life are that critical window – a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to lay the foundation for future success. Brain development and maturation as well as adequate growth through nutrition must happen in this period, failing which the child will never reach their full potential.

What the science says

The science is undeniable. By the age of two years, the brain reaches almost 80% of its adult weight. Synapse development peaks during this time, with synaptic density reaching adult levels by preschool age. The development of the frontal lobes, which are believed to control higher cognitive functions (including planning, sequencing and self-regulation), happens in growth spurts during the first two years of life. If the foundational development of the brain and skills is flawed in these earliest days, later developments that build on earlier circuits and skills will be inherently limited.

It is not just cognitive development that is defined in the first 1,000 days. Nutritional deficiencies before the age of three are, in some cases, impossible to reverse. Although India has made strides in overcoming nutritional deficiencies in the decades between 1993 and 2021, at the current rate of decline, stunting prevalence (low height for age) will reach 10% only by 2075. Can we double the pace to hit this target by 2047? To succeed, we must seize the critical window of early childhood by combining efforts on nutrition and cognition, giving children the best chance at a bright future.

For a child, the first 1,000 days of his life are a critical window to lay the foundation for his future; more needs to be done in India

Nutrition and cognitive development have to go hand in hand. They are , for all intents and purposes, cut from the same cloth. Adequate nutrition is essential for brain function, and without meeting nutritional demands, there can be permanent cognitive damage or disabilities. A birth-cohort study in Vellore, Tamil Nadu, found that early childhood iron deficiency negatively impacts verbal performance and cognitive processing speed at age five and affects expressive language development before the age of two. Research has also indicated that the impact of stand-alone nutrition programmes was low to moderate when compared to combined nutrition and stimulation programmes. Learning is fast and permanent in the first few years. A three-year-old starts speaking in a regional language and never forgets it. Most of us still remember nursery rhymes, thanks to neuroplasticity.

Childcare programmes in India

The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) programme, one of the biggest childcare programmes in the world, has the unique ability to prioritise both nutrition and education as pillars of early childhood development. The Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched programmes such as "*Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi*", which seek to ensure that nutrition and cognitive development go hand in hand.

Additionally, the National Framework for Early Childhood Stimulation for Children from Birth to Three Years - Navchetana provides structured guidance in the form of simple activities for social and cognitive stimulation based on the age of the child. The framework offers 140 activities tailored to the child's age, presented in a 36-month stimulation activity calendar. It is designed to be used by parents, caregivers and Anganwadi or crèche workers, particularly during home visits. These provide an opportunity to learn through play-based activities supported by caregivers, rather than being 'taught' in a formal sense. Well-conducted home visits using the stimulation calendar will help children under the age of three receive adequate, timely, and nutrient-rich food to support their holistic development and reduce the risk of developmental delays due to nutritional deficits.

Areas that need improvement

Though an army of almost 14 lakh Anganwadi centres and workers is at the frontlines of the battle to ensure that children get adequate nutrition and stimulation, especially in the first 1,000 days, more needs to be done. The ICDS programme needs to enhance its coverage and achieve saturation of its target populations with high-quality services in health, nutrition and early learning. It needs to leverage advancements in technology, expand and enhance services in urban areas, and improve the access, capacity and delivery of pre-primary education, including evaluation and measurement of the health, learning and psychosocial well-being of children under six years.

Finally, to empower women to join the productive workforce, we need to expand the crèche provision by exploring multiple models including publicly-run, community-run and public-private partnerships.

We must remember we are what we eat and what we think – and what is lost in the early years can never be regained. Investing in early childhood nutrition and stimulation is not just about health. It is about empowering children and women to reach their full potential and meeting the evolving needs of society.

Investments in early childhood and investment are particularly urgent as we progress towards increased automation, mechanisation and an accelerated pace of technological advancement, which is likely to lead to less employment for low-skilled and unskilled workers.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Crisis in the hills

The recent cases of flood-related disasters in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, which include flash floods, cloudbursts and landslides, demand urgent attention. The great damage being caused is a warning sign of converging environmental and developmental missteps. These are States that are the indicators of ecological health. What is worrying is the frequency and the severity of these events.

Baani Bhabha,
Ambala, Punjab

Groundbreaking device

The portable handheld devicem, 'Cerebo', which scans the brain using infrared technology, can be useful in detecting intracranial bleeds and edema, in ambulances and trauma centres where CT scan machines are not available (Inside pages, August 24). This relatively cheap and non-invasive tool will improve patient outcomes and can be used in emergency and military settings.

Dr. Thomas Palocaren,
Vellore, Tamil Nadu

Pujara retires

Cheteshwar Pujara's retirement brings to an end the career of one of the grittiest batters to play for India. He will be remembered along with greats such as Rahul Dravid. He was one of the key players responsible for the team's wins in the Australian fortress.

Subash Balakrishnan,
Bengaluru

All good things have to come to an end. With 7,195 runs at an average of 43.60, Pujara stands tall in the all-time leading run-getters from India. But it is also the time that he spent at the crease and the innumerable number of balls he faced — 16,217 balls of the total 97,884 deliveries — that make him so special and unique.
His post on X says it all: 'Wearing the Indian jersey, singing the anthem, and trying my best each time I stepped on the field..." Pujara was also one cricketer who stood out for another reason — his immaculate dress sense.

A.P. Thiruvadi,
Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

The ASI is facing a credibility crisis

Swarati Sabhapandit
Research scholar

C.P. Rajendran
Adjunct Professor at the National Institute of Advanced Sciences, Bengaluru

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has once again drawn public scrutiny following the controversial transfer of archaeologist K. Amarnath Ramakrishna. His leadership of the Keeladi excavation in Tamil Nadu garnered considerable public and academic interest in the history of ancient Tamil civilisation.

The Keeladi excavations

Started in 2014, the excavation at Keeladi uncovered around 7,500 artefacts. The findings indicated the presence of a sophisticated, literate, and secular urban society and offered crucial evidence in bridging the historical gap between the Iron Age (12th-6th century BCE) and the Early Historic Period (6th-4th century BCE). Scholars have since referred to the site as part of the Vaigai Valley Civilisation. The Keeladi settlement could be a part of the second urbanisation that swept the Indian subcontinent between the 6th and 2nd centuries BCE.

The project took a dramatic turn when Mr. Ramakrishna was abruptly transferred to Assam in 2017. His transfer was widely perceived as an effort to downplay the findings. Tensions escalated when the ASI claimed there were no significant findings and halted the third phase of excavation. This sparked a political rift between the Tamil Nadu government and the Union government. The Madras High Court intervened, transferring the site to the Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology, which has since unearthed over 18,000 artefacts.

In 2021, Mr. Ramakrishna returned to Tamil Nadu as superintending archaeologist of the Chennai circle. In 2023, he submitted a report on the first two phases, substantiating the earlier findings. However, the ASI requested a revision of the report. Defending his conclusions, Mr. Ramakrishna cited methodological rigour, stratigraphic sequencing, material culture analysis, and Accelerator Mass Spectrometry dating of the carbonaceous material retrieved from various event horizons within the excavated sites. The episodes underscore the politics in archaeological practice and reflect a credibility crisis facing the ASI.

> Beyond the erosion of its institutional autonomy amid bureaucratic entanglement and political contingencies, the ASI's epistemic endeavour is increasingly subsumed by nationalistic fervour

An inconsistent approach

The Union government justified its stance saying a single set of findings cannot substantiate alternative historical narratives without broader scientific validation. While this rationale champions methodological rigour and scientific inquiry in knowledge production, it also exposes the inconsistency in the ASI's conduct across other excavation projects.

Excavations at the Adichanallur and Sivagalai sites in the Thoothukudi district of Tamil Nadu exhibited a pattern similar to Keeladi. Although Adichanallur was excavated in the early 20th century by a British archaeologist, Alexander Rea, the site was neglected for nearly a century. When excavations resumed under the leadership of T. Sathyamurthy of ASI in 2004, notable Iron Age artefacts were uncovered, dated to be more than 3,000 years old. However, it took more than 15 years and court intervention for the ASI to publish the findings.

However, the ASI's excavation in Rajasthan assumed a different trajectory. The unearthing of an ancient 23 m-deep paleochannel in Bahaj village prompted some historians and archaeologists to associate the site with the mythical Saraswati River mentioned in the Rig Veda. The excavation report also claimed links to human settlements from the 'Mahabharata period', a controversial time interval debated by scholars. Such uncritical embrace of mytho-historical narratives stands antithetical to the principles of scientific knowledge production.

The ASI's conduct in these instances reveals a trap of methodological nationalism – a framework privileging a singular, state-sanctioned vision of India's past. This approach is often legitimised through methodological rigidity, teleological interpretations, and the construction of a monopolised epistemic regime. The institution's pursuit of portraying India as a civilisational monolith has long drawn criticism from scholarly circles. Ashish Avikunthak (2021) highlighted arbitrary transfers, delayed promotions, exasperating work conditions, and inadequate infrastructure that stifle quality work in the ASI. Supriya Verma and Jaya Menon (2003) critiqued the Ayodhya excavation project for lacking scientific integrity. Jürgen Neuß (2012) and Dilip Kumar Chakrabarti (1988, 2003) pointed to the ASI's continued reliance on the outdated Wheeler method and the lack of comprehensive research designs as impediments to holistic interpretation.

The ASI has largely retained a closed internal review system. Most research is circulated through internal reports, institutional monographs, and bulletins. In contrast, its global counterparts such as the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut in Germany, the Institut National de Recherches Archéologiques Préventives in France, and Japan's Agency for Cultural Affairs regularly publish findings in academic platforms. This fosters transparency, methodological accountability, scholarly rigour, and enhance the accessibility of archaeological findings. It also invites global scholarly engagement.

Beyond these issues, the ASI's epistemic endeavour is increasingly subsumed by nationalistic fervour. The crumbling legitimacy of archaeological enterprise calls for comprehensive structural and institutional reforms, greater methodological and scientific rigour, financial autonomy, and a robust epistemic framework that embraces the plurality of India's historical past.

Vijay cannot bank on star power alone

Building organisational strength and meeting people are important

STATE OF PLAY

B. Kolappan
kolappan.b@thehindu.co.in

Last week, a sea of humanity gathered at Madurai, Tamil Nadu, to listen to Joseph Vijay, founder of the political party Tamilaga Vetri Kazhagam (TVK), who said that his party would script a new chapter in the State's political history in the 2026 Assembly election. This was not surprising – Mr. Vijay is one of the highest paid and most popular actors in the Tamil film industry. But as the past has shown, star power and large crowds alone do not guarantee political success.

When Mr. Vijay launched the TVK last year, no one was surprised, as the film industry is often seen as a springboard for politics in Tamil Nadu. The founder of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK), C.N. Annadurai; his disciple and former Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi; former Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran (popularly known as MGR); former Chief Minister J. Jayalalithaa; and Desiya Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam chief Vijayakanth all had some connection to the industry. Chief Minister M.K. Stalin acted in the serial *Kurinji Malar* and Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin has also acted in films and produced them.

In Mr. Vijay's case, it was his father, director S.A. Chandrasekar, who had political ambitions for him. Mr. Vijay had reservations about entering politics and this strained his relationship with his father. What emboldened him to finally test the waters was actor Rajinikanth's decision to stay away from politics due to health reasons after announcing his plans to launch a political party. Mr. Vijay launched the TVK, hoping to occupy the space created by the absence of charismatic leaders such as Karunanidhi and Jayalalithaa.

However, what Mr. Vijay has not realised is that both MGR and Jayalalithaa did not just rely on their popularity in films; they simultaneously built their political careers. MGR had been a member of the DMK from 1952 to 1972 and rose through the ranks. He played a major role in the party's victory in the 1969 election. He meticulously cultivated his cult image. His film songs and dialogues, loaded with political messages, prepared the ground for the launch of the AIADMK after his expulsion from the DMK.

A strong organisation is also essential for success in politics and matters more than image. When MGR formed the AIADMK, a substantial part of the DMK, which had strong organisational strength and experienced leaders, went with him. Even in the case of Jayalalithaa, who was a popular actor and a protégé of MGR, it was the AIADMK's strong organisational base that helped her sustain herself in politics. Elections have proved that she, unlike MGR, was not invincible in politics. Conversely, it was lack of organisational strength that reduced actor Kamal Haasan's political party, Makkal Needhi Maiam, into an appendage of the DMK.

Some may argue that Mr. Vijay belongs to a different era, and all the factors that dominated Tamil Nadu in the past need not become decisive now. But Mr. Vijay also lives in an ivory tower. He projects himself as a saviour of the people of Tamil Nadu and his party as an alternative to other political parties, but refuses to meet the media and refrains from reacting to vital issues. When a protest against the Greater Chennai Corporation's decision to outsource waste management led to the detention of over 800 workers at midnight earlier this month, all the leaders in the State visited the workers. However, Mr. Vijay invited them to his house. Perhaps he thought that his visit would cause a stampede given his massive popularity, but the decision did him no favours.

There are a few factors that may benefit him. There is a clear lack of cohesiveness in the AIADMK, and the DMK faces anti-incumbency. Mr. Vijay has also said that he would be open to forming an alliance and sharing power with other parties. However, he cannot merely hope to take advantage of the anti-incumbency factor; he will need to split the DMK votes and receive substantial votes from the AIADMK to make a mark in 2026. Chief Minister M.K. Stalin has converted the alliance into what looks like a family and no party has shown any indication of leaving the DMK-led alliance. The DMK also believes that if the anti-incumbency factor works in favour of Mr. Vijay instead of the AIADMK-BJP combine, it can romp home to victory. Given these reasons, for Mr. Vijay, who has not made clear his ideology or electoral strategy even a year since his party's launch, the road to scripting history promises to be challenging.

Indians least concerned about the global economy: PEW survey

Only 49% of Indians said they were worried about the global economy; this was the lowest share among the 25 nations surveyed

DATA POINT

The Hindu Data Team

A 2025 survey by the Pew Research Center shows that among the people of 25 countries asked about perceived global threats, Indians were among the least concerned the condition of the world economy and climate change. Only about half the Indians surveyed viewed these as major threats. In contrast, nearly 80% of Indians identified terrorism as a major concern – one of the highest shares.

The Pew survey was carried out between March 24 and 30, 2025. Comparable data is drawn from Pew studies conducted in 2013, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2020, and 2022. Conclusions for nine advanced economies – Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain, the U.K. and the U.S. – were also presented separately in the survey of 25 countries.

The findings show that spread of false information online has overtaken the global economy and climate change as the biggest perceived threat. It continues to be seen as a major concern by a majority in the 25 countries, including the nine advanced economies.

In the spring 2025 survey, a median of 72% of adults across 25 countries said the spread of false information online poses a major threat to their nation. Another 21% considered it a minor threat, while only 5% said it was not a threat at all **(Chart 1).** In seven countries– Germany, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, the U.K., the U.S., and South Korea – the spread of false information was seen as a greater threat than any other issue in the survey.

For the first time since 2017, adults in nine advanced economies viewed the state of the global economy as a bigger threat than climate change **(Chart 2).** This shift carries important implications at a time when nations are under pressure to curb fossil fuel use and lower carbon emissions. It also reveals the public mood, shaped by anxieties over slowing growth – whether real or perceived – amid rising U.S. tariff pressures and the disruptions of two ongoing wars.

In the survey, a median of 70% of adults across the surveyed countries considered the state of the global economy a major threat. In Japan, Greece and Australia, the global economy was seen as a greater threat than all other issues.

A median of 67% of adults across the surveyed countries said global climate change was a major threat. Another 24% said it is a minor threat; 9% said it poses no threat at all. In no country surveyed was climate change considered the single greatest threat. As in past surveys, people on the ideological left remained more concerned about climate change than those on the right.

Across 25 countries, a median of 69% of adults said terrorism is a major threat, while 26% called it a minor one and 6% said it was no threat. In India, Israel, Nigeria, and Turkey, terrorism ranked as the top concern among the five issues. People in middle-income countries were more likely than those in high-income countries to view terrorism as a major threat (79% median versus 60%). Concern about the issue was also higher among older adults, those less educated, and those on the ideological right, including supporters of right-leaning populist parties.

While 49% of Indians saw the global economy as a major threat, 55% saw climate change as a major threat. This was among the lowest shares in the respective categories. By contrast, 79% of Indians said they consider terrorism a major threat **(Table 3).** Close to 70% each considered false online information and infectious diseases as a threat. In Argentina, Brazil, South Africa, and Mexico, infectious diseases were seen as the top threat among the five issues surveyed.

Cause for concern

The data for the charts were sourced from a survey conducted by the Pew Research Center titled 'International Opinion on Global Threats'

Chart 1: Median % who said each of the following is (a) ____ to their country. Around 7 in 10 adults **across the 25 nations surveyed** viewed false information online, the state of the global economy, and terrorism as major threats

Chart 3: Country-wise share of respondents who said each of the following is a major threat to their country (in %)

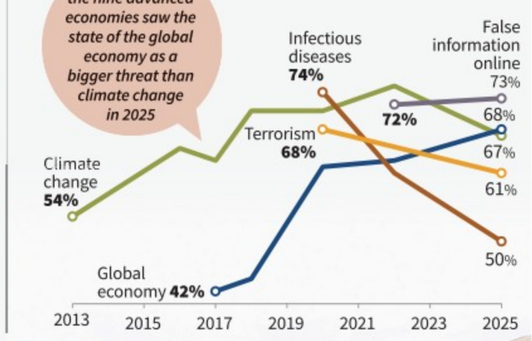
Country	Spread of false information online	Condition of the global economy	Terrorism	Global climate change	Spread of infectious diseases
Brazil	84	77	77	77	91
Kenya	75	81	89	72	88
Turkey	66	79	91	87	87
Argentina	73	75	77	80	85
Japan	77	80	77	78	76
S. Korea	82	76	73	77	76
Indonesia	70	74	87	65	86
Mexico	66	72	79	74	82
France	80	76	84	78	56
Nigeria	58	76	89	54	74
Spain	73	71	69	72	56
Greece	72	85	52	75	52
India	70	49	79	55	71
Italy	72	55	67	71	62
Poland	85	55	59	55	60
U.K.	73	65	61	66	48
S. Africa	64	54	53	57	76
Hungary	72	66	39	72	54
U.S.	70	60	61	51	50
Germany	81	60	59	67	28
Netherlands	74	53	52	66	42
Canada	71	68	44	60	42
Israel	43	51	89	42	55
Sweden	74	54	56	64	33
Australia	65	71	36	63	39
25 country median	72	70	69	67	60

Methodology: In this analysis, median scores are used to help readers see overall patterns in the data. The median percentage is the middle number in a list of all percentages sorted from highest to lowest

1 People in India, Israel, Nigeria and Turkey see terrorism as the top threat of the five issues asked about

2 In none of the countries surveyed was climate change considered the single greatest threat

Chart 2: Share of respondents who said each of the following is a major threat to their country. Data in the graph pertains only to the **nine advanced economies** — Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain, the U.K. and the U.S.



FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO AUGUST 25, 1975

NCERT wants change in mode of evaluation

New Delhi, Aug. 24: The approach paper, prepared by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) on the curriculum for the 10-year school, has suggested that a public examination at the end of 10 years of schooling should be abolished.

The schools' assessment in each subject or unit should be placed on record and given to students. A record of internal assessment covering both scholastic and non-scholastic areas without an aggregate should be included in the school certificate, which should not only mention the student's evaluation in subjects, but also in co-curricular and other areas of character and personality.

The paper has emphasised that evaluation properly practised will influence teacher's methods and the study habits of pupils. Emphasis on the assessment of understanding, application and problem solving is bound to influence instruction positively. Use of improved type of questions is a real need to dissuade pupils from resorting to rote learning.

The main purpose of valuation, according to the NCERT, is to see how far the objectives set forth to be achieved through the curriculum have been realised. This process is naturally related to the learning experiences and methods of teaching that have been used in the process of instruction and learning.

Evaluation, in order to be used, says the NCERT, has to possess the following characteristics: it should give reliable and concrete evidence on the attainment of specific objectives; and it has to be comprehensive, covering all objectives and content areas in a particular course.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO AUGUST 25, 1925

Raw cotton

(From the Department of Agriculture)

The receipts of loose cotton at presses and spinning mills in the Madras Presidency, from the 1st February to the 15th August, amounted to 4,53,467 bales of 400 lb. lint, against an estimate of 552.700 bales of the total crop of 1924-1925. The receipts in the corresponding period of the previous year were 356,578 bales: 105,443 bales mainly of pressed cotton were received at spinning mills and 253,575 bales were exported by sea while 3,293 bales were imported by sea mainly from Bombay.

From Page One

'98.2% Bihar voters have submitted documents'

The SIR was done between June 24 and July 25. Claims and objections along with documents can be submitted till September 1.

The poll panel appreciated the efforts by the Chief Electoral Officer of Bihar, District Election Officers of all 38 districts, 243 EROs, 2,976 AEROs, 90,712 booth-level officers, lakhs of volunteers and field representatives of all the 12 major political parties, and their 1.6 lakh booth-level agents.

"The exercise to collect their documents with the help of BLOs and volunteers is going on. Thus, just like collection of enumeration forms, work related to collection of documents is also likely to be completed before time," the release said, adding that verification of documents is also being done concurrently by the EROs and the AEROs.

The poll body said that out of 7.24 crore electors in the draft rolls, only 0.16% of the voters have filed claims and objections so far. "10 from the BLAs of 12 recognised political parties in Bihar, NIL by persons who are not electors of that Assembly Constituency and 1,21,143 by electors within their Assembly Constituency," the press note said.

Aadhaar alone is not valid proof, claims BJP

The party said Aadhaar alone could not be a valid document for enrolling as a voter. "Attributing to the Supreme Court what it has not said is contempt of court," said BJP national secretary and IT cell head Amit Malviya.

"Aadhaar is only a proof of identity and residence and it does not establish citizenship," Mr. Malviya said, adding that the Aadhaar Act said so. He said nowhere in the judgment did the Supreme Court even suggest that it should be used as a valid document for the SIR.

'Spreading propaganda'

"The Opposition is spreading propaganda over the issue," he said. The Representation of the People Act states that a person will be disqualified from registration on electoral rolls if he is not a citizen of India, declared by a competent court to be of unsound mind or is disqualified under law relating to corrupt practices or offences in elections, Mr. Malviya said.

"Asking the Election Commission to include Aadhaar as a document for automatic voter enrolment would render Section 16 of the Representation of the People Act and the Aadhaar Act meaningless. In fact, this very Bench, on August 12, held that Aadhaar is not a legal document to prove citizenship," Mr. Malviya said.

"The truth is simple: SIR is intact, Aadhaar alone cannot get you enrolled; dead, fake, Bangladeshi and Rohingya names will be removed and only Indian citizens will elect the next government – not foreigners," he said.

65 lakh names removed

Mr. Malviya said 65 lakh names removed from the draft voter roll in Bihar included those of fake voters, those deceased, and Bangladeshi and Rohingya people.

While the Supreme Court asked the list of deleted names to be published so that the affected persons could reapply, Mr. Malviya said only 84,305 objections had been filed so far, which is barely 1.3% of the total deleted names. It is well below the standard margin of error, he said. "Clearly, the 'vote *chori*' [theft] cry is manufactured," he said.

Former CM Champai detained in Ranchi

Deputy Superintendent of Police, Ranchi, K.V. Raman said Mr. Soren was put under house arrest as a preventive measure to maintain law and order.

Members of the Nagdi Zameen Bachao Sangharsh Samiti had organised the protest, saying the land identified for the proposed Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences Hospital belonged to tribal communities and was traditionally used for farming.

Union Minister of State for Defence Sanjay Seth hit out at the Hemant Soren government for allegedly displaying a "dictatorial behaviour", and said there was an "undeclared emergency" in the State. "The house arrest of Champai Soren ... who raised his voice in favour of the rights of the tribal indigenous farmers of Nagdi, is a black mark on democracy. The attempt to destroy fertile agricultural lands in the name of RIMS-2 is in no way beneficial to the public interest," he wrote on X.

However, later in the afternoon, despite the deployment of a heavy police force, hundreds of Adivasi women took part in the protest and tilled part of the land. A scuffle broke out between Adivasi groups and police who fired tear gas shells to disperse the crowd.

"No matter how much the State government uses force, I will not allow even a single inch of land to be taken. I am thankful to the villagers who gathered and showed unity in ploughing the field. This land is for agriculture and if there would be more such lands, there would be statewide protest," Mr. Champai told presspersons in the evening.

A Health Department official said the hospital would be a 2,600-bed super-specialty facility. The government was likely to spend nearly ₹1,000 crore on the project backed by the Asian Development Bank.

Delhi Police arrest second accused in CM attack case

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police on Sunday arrested another accused in connection with the recent attack on Chief Minister Rekha Gupta.

Prior to the arrest, Tahseen Syed, a friend of prime accused Sakriya Rajeshbhai Khimji, 41, was brought to Delhi from Gujarat's Rajkot on Friday night for questioning and was made to confront Mr. Khimji to verify facts, the police said.

Mr. Khimji, an autorickshaw driver, attacked Ms. Gupta on August 20 allegedly in protest against the Supreme Court's order (since modified) on relocating stray dogs.

The incident happened at the Chief Minister's Jan Sunwai (public hearing) programme. He was arrested the same day.

Mr. Khimji had allegedly sent a video of Ms. Gupta's Shalimar Bagh residence to Mr. Syed, while the latter had sent him ₹2,000 and was in constant contact with him before the attack.

Mr. Khimji has five cases of assault and possession of liquor against him, filed between 2017 and 2024, at Rajkot's Bhaktinagar police station, the police said.

Search continues for 32 persons missing in Chishoti flash floods

Rajnath Singh meets injured in Jammu hospital, expresses satisfaction over prompt response of J&K administration, Army, NDRF, SDRF, police

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

As search continues for the 32 persons missing following the heavy rain and flash floods at Chishoti village in Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Sunday reviewed the ground situation through videoconferencing from Jammu.

Mr. Singh visited the Government Medical College (GMC) hospital in Jammu and met those injured in the flash floods at Chishoti village.

Mr. Singh, who could not travel to the affected areas due to inclement weather, expressed satisfaction over the prompt response and coordinated efforts of the State administration, Army, National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), and the Jammu and Kashmir Police during the crisis.

"The Central government, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is leaving no stone unturned in providing relief and rehabilitation to those affected by this tragic incident," he said.

Rajnath Singh with Manoj Sinha during his visit to the GMC hospital to enquire about those injured in flash floods in Jammu. PTI

During his hospital visit, Mr. Singh interacted with the injured and prayed for their speedy recovery. He was accompanied by Lieutenant-Governor Manoj Sinha and Union Minister Jitendra Singh.

Earlier, Mr. Sinha said the Defence Minister would visit the affected village, if weather permitted.

"If the weather permits, we will visit the affected village. Otherwise, he [Defence Minister] will meet the injured in GMC and return to Delhi," he said.

Heavy rain lashed Chishoti village on August 14, killing 65 persons and injuring over 100, while the search for 32 other missing persons is continuing.

"Sixteen people are under treatment in the GMC and their condition is stable. I hope all of them will recover fully and return home soon," the Lieutenant-Governor said.

Mr. Sinha said ₹4.13 crore had been spent on relief and rehabilitation of the victims.

(With PTI inputs)

Man held for dowry murder shot in leg during 'escape bid'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The police on Sunday arrested the mother-in-law of a 28-year-old woman who was allegedly murdered for dowry in Greater Noida, while her husband was shot in the leg while trying to escape from custody.

The husband, Vipin Bhati, was arrested on Saturday, following which he was taken to their residence on Sunday in Greater Noida's Sirsa village, to recover evidence. "He snatched an officer's pistol and opened fire. In retaliatory firing, he suffered a bullet injury in his leg," said Sudhir Kumar, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Greater Noida.

The police subsequently transferred him to a hospital, where he told presspersons that he was innocent. "I have not done anything. She died on her own. Fights between a husband and wife happen everywhere," Mr. Vipin said.

Later, the police also arrested Daya, the victim's mother-in-law, while her brother-in-law and father-in-law are at large.

According to the police, they received information about Nikki from Fortis Hospital on Thursday, and a complaint was registered by her sister, Kanchan, which said Mr. Vipin, his brother Rohit, Ms. Daya and father Satveer had indulged in domestic violence and repetitive demands of dowry.

Police apprehend the accused after he was shot in leg while escaping custody on Sunday.

Following this, they were booked under Sections 103(1) (murder), 115(2) (voluntarily causing hurt), and 61(2) (criminal conspiracy) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

Ms. Kanchan is married to Mr. Rohit. According to the complaint, the sisters' parents had gifted an SUV, a motorcycle, cash, and gold at the time of marriage. Nikki suffered 70% burns and died at the Safdarjung Hospital, after she was transferred from Fortis Hospital.

DRDO tests multi-layered air defence system successfully

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully conducted the maiden flight tests of the Integrated Air Defence Weapon System (IADWS) off the coast of Odisha around 12.30 p.m. on Saturday.

According to the Defence Ministry, the IADWS is a multi-layered air defence system comprising indigenous Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missiles (QRSAM), Advanced Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) missiles, and a high-power laser-based Directed Energy Weapon (DEW).

Three different targets, including two high-speed fixed wing unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) targets and a multi-copter drone, were simultaneously engaged and destroyed completely by the QRSAM, VSHORADS and high-energy laser weapon system at different ranges and altitudes. All the weapon system components, including missile systems, drone detection and destruction system, weapon system command and control along with communication and radars, performed flawlessly, which was confirmed by range instruments deployed by the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur. The test was witnessed by senior scientists from the DRDO and representatives from the armed forces, a press release stated.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh complimented the DRDO, the armed forces, and industry for successful development of the IADWS.

The Integrated Air Defence Weapon System (IADWS) being deployed, off the coast of Odisha, on Saturday. ANI

Tariffs put on India to force Russia to stop war, says U.S. V-P

Press Trust of India
NEW YORK/WASHINGTON

U.S. Vice-President J.D. Vance on Sunday said President Donald Trump had applied "aggressive economic leverage" such as "secondary tariffs on India" to force Russia to stop bombing Ukraine.

Mr. Vance was speaking during an exclusive interview on NBC News "Meet the Press" when he also said the step would "make it harder" for the Russians to get rich from their oil economy.

The Trump administration has been highly critical of India for its procurement of discounted crude oil from Russia. Interestingly, Washington has not been criticising China, the largest importer of Russian crude oil.

India has been maintaining that its energy procurement is driven by national interest and market dynamics.

If the U.S. is not "imposing new sanctions," what is the pressure on Russia? "How do you get them to a place of getting to the table with Zelenskyy and stopping to drop bombs?" moderator Kristen Welker asked.

Mr. Trump had applied "aggressive economic leverage," for example "secondary tariffs on India, to try to make it harder for the Russians to get rich from their oil economy," Mr. Vance replied.

"He tried to make it clear that Russia can be reinvited into the world economy if they stop the killing. But they are going to continue to be isolated if they don't stop the killing," he said.

Indian envoy Vinay Kwatra discusses 'fair' trade with U.S. lawmakers

Press Trust of India
NEW YORK

Indian envoy Vinay Mohan Kwatra discussed "fair, balanced and mutually beneficial trade ties" with U.S. lawmakers amid ongoing tariff tensions between New Delhi and Washington.

The Indian Ambassador has met four U.S. lawmakers in the past 24 hours and 23 since August 9, as revealed by his social media posts.

Mr. Kwatra met Congressman Representative Joe Courtney, Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, on Saturday and thanked him for supporting the bilateral partnership between the two countries.

"Highlighted our perspectives on trade and economic cooperation, including the need for fair, balanced and mutually beneficial trade ties," Mr. Kwatra said on his social media post.

He also had a "productive discussion" with Congressman Gabe Amo, Vice Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee (HFAC) Democrats. He appreciated Mr. Amo's support for the bilateral ties and "shared perspectives on the importance of fair, balanced and mutually beneficial trade engagements", he added.

He also had a conversation with Congressman Jared Moskowitz, Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Intelligence (HFAC).

In his conversation with Congressman Ben Cline, the envoy highlighted India's growing hydrocarbon purchases from the U.S. "Had a productive conversation with @RepBenCline. Thanked him for his support to the bilateral partnership," Mr. Kwatra posted. "We discussed the importance of fair, balanced and mutually beneficial trade ties," he added.

130th Constitution Amendment Bill banks on power of arrest, runs the risk of politicising it

NEWS ANALYSIS

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Constitution (One Hundred and Thirtieth Amendment) Bill, referred to the Joint Parliamentary Committee, is the Union government's response to political corruption and a move to ensure Ministers, including Prime Ministers and Chief Ministers, do not run governments from jail. The Bill primarily banks on the power of arrest, and even runs the risk of politicising the power.

The Opposition has termed the Bill "unconstitutional" with an ability to bring elected governments down.

The Bill proposes that Ministers arrested for serious offences punishable with imprisonment of five years and above, and incarcerated as undertrials for 30 days, would lose office either by default on the 31st day or on the order of the President/Governor. The Bill employs the statutory power of arrest to detain Constitutional authorities such as the Prime Minister or a Chief Minister. The text of the Bill uses the phrase "arrested and detained in custody" but does not specify by whom. It also does not pinpoint the exact laws under which these arrests would be made and merely says "under any law for the time being in force".

Kejriwal's bail

Supreme Court judgments have cautioned lawmakers against incentivising arrest. Recent years have witnessed summons, arrests and detentions of a sitting Chief Minister and State Ministers, especially in non-BJP-ruled States. The court has held against making arrest and prolonged incarceration tools of harassment and a punishment in itself.

Amit Shah tabled the 130th Constitution Amendment Bill in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

"Arrest brings humiliation, curtails freedom and casts scars forever. Lawmakers know it, so also the police," the court had observed in *Arnesh Kumar versus State of Bihar*.

Granting bail to then Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in a CBI case registered in the liquor policy 'scam', Supreme Court judge, Justice Ujjal Bhuyan, in a separate opinion, observed that the "power to arrest is one thing but the need to arrest is altogether a different thing. Just because an investigating agency has the power to arrest, it does not necessarily mean that it should arrest such a person".

In *Joginder Kumar Vs. State of Uttar Pradesh*, the court observed that "no arrest can be made just because it is lawful for police officers to do so... The existence of the power of arrest is one thing but justification for the exercise of it is quite another". Denying a person of his liberty is a serious matter.

In *Arnab Ranjan Goswami versus Union of India*, the Supreme Court had observed the need to balance the requirement for the proper enforcement of criminal law on the one end and the need to ensure that the law did not become a ruse for targeted harassment on the other.

"Deprivation of liberty even for a single day is one day too many," the court had emphasised.

The Bill has come at a time when the Supreme Court has been vocally critical about arrests and incarcerations under the anti-money laundering law. Two separate Benches of the Supreme Court have questioned the "poor conviction rates" reached by the Central agency, observing that "out of about 400 Enforcement Case Information Reports you (ED) have registered, less than only 10 have reached conviction".

SIR is an institutionalised way of stealing votes: Rahul Gandhi

The Congress leader says the Opposition will not allow vote theft in Bihar and accuses the Election Commission of being partial; all the INDIA bloc constituents are working unitedly for the Assembly polls and the results will be fruitful, he adds

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday alleged that the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls was an institutionalised way of stealing votes in Bihar. He, however, asserted that the Opposition would not allow vote theft hereafter.

Mr. Gandhi, Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, said that all the INDIA bloc constituents in Bihar were working unitedly for the upcoming Assembly election and that the results would be fruitful.

Addressing a joint press conference of the INDIA bloc in Araria, Mr. Gandhi said that there was complete ideological and strategic cohesion among the parties in the grand alliance, and it reflected during the "Voter Adhikar Yatra", which had drawn a huge response.

Besides Mr. Gandhi, leaders such as Tejashwi Yadav of the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), Pawan Khera, chairperson of the AICC media and publicity department, Dipankar Bhattacharya of the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist), and Mukesh Sahani of the Vikassheel Insaan Party (VIP) addressed the joint press conference.

Reaching out: Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi waves the party flag during the 'Voter Adhikar Yatra' in Purnia on Sunday. ANI

'Acknowledging reality'

Mr. Gandhi said the overwhelming support for the yatra was proof that crores of people in Bihar acknowledged the reality of electoral manipulation and were determined to stop it.

He said that during the yatra, children as young as six had started saying, "*Vote Chor, Gaddi Chhor* (Vote thief, leave the throne)."

"We will not allow the Election Commission (EC) and the BJP to steal votes in Bihar. I have already proved beyond any doubt how one lakh fake voters were included in the Mahadevapura Assembly segment. Instead of taking any action, the Election Commission asked me to file an affidavit," the Congress leader said.

Accusing the EC of being partial, Mr. Gandhi said that though BJP leader Anurag Thakur made the same allegations that he had made earlier, the commission had not asked him to submit an affidavit till this day.

'BJP-EC partnership'

He added that such action proves there was a partnership between the EC and the BJP because the EC was not neutral.

Mr. Gandhi said the entire Opposition was speaking against the deletion of voters from the electoral rolls, but not the BJP.

On a question about the INDIA bloc's plan for farmers if voted to power, Mr. Gandhi said, "The *Mahagathbandhan* [grand alliance] will prepare a Bihar-specific manifesto that will focus on debt relief, storage and export-import facilities to protect farmers from exploitation."

Mr. Yadav, too, accused the EC of acting like one more cell of the BJP. He said it was no longer the Election Commission, but the "Godi Commission".

He also pointed out how the Modi government had passed a law granting legal immunity to the Election Commissioners from any action, while making a law to remove Chief Ministers if they remained behind bars for a month.

Replying to a question about the INDIA bloc "tarnishing the image" of the EC through the Yatra as claimed by BJP leaders, Mr. Bhattacharya said if anyone was responsible for raising a question on the credibility of the Election Commission, it was the commission itself, which had become the "Election Omission of India".

INDIA bloc will not allow Bill to disqualify jailed Ministers, says Venugopal

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill, 2025, which seeks to remove the Prime Minister, Ministers and other functionaries if they spend 30 consecutive days in jail, is an attack on federalism and the INDIA bloc will not allow its passage, Congress general secretary K.C. Venugopal said here on Sunday.

He was addressing a public gathering as part of the inauguration of Quaid e Millath Centre, the headquarters of the Indian Union Muslim League (IUML) near Daryaganj here.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah can put any politician in jail and then disqualify them. They are taking away the powers of the people to remove a Minister. INDIA bloc will not allow this draconian Bill to be passed in Parliament," he said.

> Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah can put any politician in jail and then disqualify them. INDIA bloc will not allow this draconian Bill to be passed in Parliament
>
> **K.C. VENUGOPAL**
> Congress general secretary

'Dark age'

Mr. Venugopal said that instead of considering all as equal, those in power at the Centre are trying to divide and target them. "Legislation like Waqf Bill are for targeting communities," he said. "This is a dark age. We will survive this. The good times of democracy will be back," he said at a public gathering.

The Lok Sabha member said lakhs were marching with Opposition leader Rahul Gandhi against the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of voter lists in Bihar.

"The Election Commission has become a tool of the BJP. People are gradually realising that this government is a bogus government. In 2024, the Modi government did not get a majority, they have stolen the election results. This Prime Minister is not a legitimate PM, he became PM by stealing the election results," he said.

'Foul practices'

Senior lawyer and Rajya Sabha member Kapil Sibal said the narrative on SIR was set by the Union Home Minister two months ago by saying that Bangladeshis had entered Bihar.

"That originally is the rationale for doing SIR," he said. "The EC has not sighted even a single Bangladeshi who has come into Bihar. So obviously it was a ruse," he said, adding that the BJP has been adopting procedures to win elections through 'foul' practices since 2014. "In Maharashtra, they added votes to win and in Bihar they are deleting votes to ensure that they will win," he said.

Wayanad MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said the SIR was a full-fledged attack on democracy. "The right of every citizen to vote and elect a government of his or her choice has been effectively taken away from lakhs and lakhs of citizens of India," she said.

Fear of defeat in Bihar polls is haunting Rahul: Thakur

Press Trust of India
SHIMLA

Former Union Minister Anurag Thakur attacked Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Sunday, saying the Congress has "lost around 90 elections" under Mr. Gandhi's leadership and he is now "haunted" by the "fear of another defeat" in the upcoming Bihar Assembly election.

The BJP MP said that Mr. Gandhi blamed VVPATs or EVMs after every electoral defeat, and "now, even before the polls, he is making baseless statements about the Election Commission".

"It is very unfortunate if the Opposition has lost faith in the country's constitutional framework," he said. He added that work to strengthen constitutional institutions was undertaken during the tenure of the BJP-led governments.

Parliament, Assemblies should not be prevented from functioning for political interests, says Shah

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Parliament and Assemblies should not be prevented from functioning for political interests, and while symbolic protests have their place, the practice of obstructing the House day after day under the pretext of protests requires reflection, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Sunday.

He was speaking at the launch of the two-day All India Speakers' Conference organised at the Delhi Assembly.

The conference is being held to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Vithalbhai Patel becoming the first elected Indian President (Speaker) of the Central Legislative Assembly, the Lower House of the legislature of British India.

The House had initially convened in the building that currently houses the Delhi Assembly.

He said that this House had seen significant contributions from many distinguished leaders of India's Freedom Movement, and eminent figures such as Mahatma Gandhi's mentor, Gopal Krishna Gokhale, Lala Lajpat Rai, and Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das had expressed the nation's longing for freedom and their aspirations for Independence through their powerful speeches.

Paying tribute: Home Minister Amit Shah pays floral tribute to freedom fighter Vithalbhai Patel in New Delhi on Sunday. ANI

Mr. Shah requested the Delhi Assembly Speaker to compile the speeches delivered by eminent personalities in the House and make them available in libraries of all Legislative Assemblies across the country, so that legislators and today's youth could understand how the spirit of freedom was ignited in the Delhi Assembly.

The legislative history of India began with Patel becoming the Speaker of the Central Assembly, he said.

The Union Minister said the most challenging role in the House was that of the Speaker, as they were elected from a political party, but, upon taking oath, assumed the role of an "impartial umpire".

He said that impartiality and justice were the two pillars on which the Speaker's dignity rested, and in a way, the Speaker was considered both the guardian and servant of the House.

He said the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly must focus on three key aspects – wisdom, ideas, and legislation.

He said wisdom gave rise to ideas, and ideas led to legislation, which was the primary function of the Assembly. The ultimate purpose of any law should be public welfare, he added.

The Minister said that when the Speaker fully respected wisdom, ideas, and legislation, the Legislative Assemblies rose above partisan interests to focus on the interests of the State and the nation, and the Lok Sabha focused on national interests.

Mr. Shah said all legislators must work towards increasing the dignity and respect of the post of the Speaker.

'Guiding light'

Praising the contributions of Vithalbhai Patel, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta said as President of the Central Legislative Assembly, he established the highest standards of parliamentary dignity and discipline and his life's work served as a guiding light in the journey of making India the 'Mother of Democracy'.

Delhi Assembly Speaker Vijender Gupta, Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju, and Delhi Lieutenant-Governor Vinay Kumar Saxena were present at the event.

To reach 10% women in force, CISF set to add 2,400 personnel

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The CISF is inducting first-ever all-woman commando team for core operations such as deployment at airports

The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) is all set to induct 2,400 women personnel in 2026 to achieve the target of 10% representation of women.

At present, the CISF has 12,491 women personnel in its ranks, and in the coming years, recruitment will be so structured to ensure that women consistently make up at least 10% of the force, a CISF official said.

The CISF is also inducting the first-ever all-woman commando team for core operations such as deployment at airports and other vital installations.

"Training of women commandos has already begun at the Regional Training Centre (RTC) in Barwaha, Madhya Pradesh. The eight-week advanced commando course will prepare women personnel for Quick Reaction Teams and Special Task Force duties at high-security establishments and plants," the official said.

The programme includes physical fitness and weapons training, live-fire drills under stress, endurance-building exercises such as running, obstacle courses, rappelling, survival training in forests, and a 48-hour confidence-building exercise designed to test decision-making and teamwork under adverse conditions, the official said.

The first batch of 30 women – currently deployed across various airports – are undergoing training, followed by a second batch that will train from October 6 to November 29.

In the initial phase, at least 100 women from different Aviation Security Groups (ASGs) and sensitive CISF units will complete the programme.

AAP will not join JPC, says Bill designed to trap the Opposition

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Sunday attacked the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) over the proposed Bill to "sack" Chief Ministers. The party alleged that the Bill was designed to jail Opposition leaders in false cases, and that it would not join the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) being set up on the matter.

"The real objective of this Bill is not to fight corruption but to topple governments, break parties, indulge in horse trading, trap Opposition leaders in false cases, send them to jail, and force their resignations. This Bill is being brought with the intent of destroying democracy. Therefore, the AAP and Arvind Kejriwal have decided that we will not participate in the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) being set up by the government," AAP Rajya Sabha member Sanjay Singh said.

Corruption and corrupt

"The BJP and Narendra Modi are in love with corruption and the corrupt. Ajit Pawar, Narayan Rane, Chhagan Bhujbal, Hasan Mushrif, G. Janardhana Reddy, B.S. Yediyurappa, Mukul Roy, and Suvendu Adhikari from the Saradha-Narada scam, Himanta Biswa Sarma – which party are all these corrupt leaders in today?" the AAP leader said.

Arrest being used as a weapon to dismiss governments, says Kharge

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

After "vote *chori*", the BJP is now engaged in "*satta chori* [government theft]" by bringing Bills to topple Opposition governments within 30 days by using arrest as a weapon, Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge said on Sunday.

Mr. Kharge made the remarks in his opening statement at a meeting with newly appointed District Congress Committees (DCC) presidents of Haryana and Madhya Pradesh at Indira Bhavan, the party headquarters in New Delhi.

The Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, who has a one-day break in his ongoing "Voter Adhikar Yatra" in Bihar, addressed the gathering in the evening. "An important step in preparing our Congress organisation to fight for the people's voice with renewed strength," Mr. Gandhi wrote in a Facebook post.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and K.C. Venugopal, MP, at a meeting with DCC presidents of Haryana and Madhya Pradesh. PTI

General secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal, who also addressed the meeting, in a X post added, "After this session, DCC presidents will also attend a 10-day rigorous training camp to prepare them for their crucial responsibilities".

He spoke about the three Bills which have now been referred to a Joint Committee of Parliament. Mr. Kharge claimed that the Bills take away the right of citizens to form or remove their elected government. This power will now go to institutions such as the Enforcement Directorate, Central Bureau of Investigation, he added.

On the lookout

"The BJP will continue to cut the votes of our people with schemes like SIR. The biggest responsibility of the district president is that we have to be careful for the entire five years. We have to keep intensively checking our voter list so that if BJP people or Booth-Level Officers cut the names of our people, we can catch them immediately," Mr. Kharge said.

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सा.नि.वि. वृत चूरू
क्रमांक :- 1026 दिनांक :- 12.08.2025
अल्पकालीन-ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या 11/2025-26
इच्छुक निविदादाताओं से जिला चूरू में सडक निर्माण कार्यों हेतु अनुमानित लागत राशि रू. 1295.05 लाख की ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। कार्य के निविदा प्रपत्र दिनांक 27.08.2025 सांय 6.00 बजे तक ऑनलाईन अपलोड करना आवश्यक होगा। उक्त निविदा से सम्बन्धित विवरण राज्य सरकार के प्रोक्योरमेंट पोर्टल http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in व विभागीय वेबसाईट http://pwd.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखे जा सकते है।
NIB No-PWD2526A2592
UBN No:- 1-PWD2526WLOB09565, 2-PWD2526WLOB09566
अधीक्षण अभियन्ता
DIPR/C/11907/2025 सा.नि.वि वृत चूरू

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
DEPARTMENT OF POWER, GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Office of the Secretary, Power Department
5th Floor, Bidyut Unnayan Bhawan, 3/C LA Block, Sector III,
Salt Lake, Kolkata, West Bengal
Email ID: js2powerwb@gmail.com

Department of Power, Government of West Bengal on behalf of the West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company Limited (WBSEDCL) invites **Application under Request for Qualification (RFQ)** for the details mentioned hereunder:

Sl. No.	Global Tender Notice No. & Description of Items	Last date of submission of Application
(i)	No-1300-POW-13099/4/2025 **Dated**: 25th August 2025 **Selection of Bidder for Setting up of (2x800) 1600 MW Thermal Power Project on Design, Build, Finance, Own and Operate (DBFOO) basis within the State of West Bengal (Land identified should fall under Category C as per Ministry of Environment, Forest And Climate Change (MOEF&CC) Notification dated 11th July 2025), and Power Procurement under Section 63 of Electricity Act Tariff Based Competitive Bidding (TBCB).**	10th October 2025 (upto 12:00 Hrs)

Tenders are to be submitted online through the website: https://www.tcil-electronictender.com
Further details of the Tender Notice are available from the website: www.wbpower.gov.in / www.wbsedcl.in /and the above-mentioned office (Ph. No .033-23393681)
Date: 25.08.2025 Pralay Majumdar
Place: Salt Lake, Kolkata Additional Secretary
ICA- T18179(4)/2025

INBRIEF

Former CRPF D-G Anish Dayal Singh appointed Deputy NSA

Former CRPF and ITBP Director-General Anish Dayal Singh has been appointed the new Deputy National Security Adviser (NSA), with a mandate to handle internal affairs, official sources said. Mr. Singh, a 1988-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer from the Manipur cadre, retired from service in December 2024. He brings extensive experience to the role, having served for nearly 30 years in the Intelligence Bureau (IB) before heading the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), and most recently, the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF). According to officials, Mr. Singh will be in charge of internal affairs of the country, including Jammu and Kashmir, and Naxal and northeastern insurgency, as the Deputy NSA. PTI

PM to launch over ₹1,400 cr. worth railway projects

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate railway projects worth over ₹1,400 crore during his visit to Gujarat on August 25 and 26. These include doubling of the 65-km Mahesana-Palanpur rail line worth ₹537 crore and gauge conversion of the 37-km Kalol-Kadi-Katosan Road rail line at ₹347 crore and 40-km Bechraji-Ranujr rail line at a cost of ₹520 crore. "With the addition of broad-gauge capacity, these projects will ensure safer and seamless connectivity in the region, especially for Mahesana, Banaskantha and Patan districts," a railway official said. The new Katosan Road and Sabarmati service line is likely to improve access to religious destinations.

ISRO holds air-drop test for Gaganyaan mission

A dummy crew capsule weighing around 5 tonnes was dropped by a helicopter to check how the parachute system designed for the human spaceflight mission performs in real-world conditions

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Flight check: The ISRO conducts the first Integrated Air Drop Test for an end-to-end demonstration of the parachute-based deceleration system for the Gaganyaan mission in Bengaluru on Sunday. ANI

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on Sunday successfully carried out its first Integrated Air Drop Test (IADT-1), a critical milestone in preparations for the country's maiden human spaceflight programme, Gaganyaan.

"ISRO successfully accomplishes first Integrated Air Drop Test (IADT-01) for end-to-end demonstration of parachute-based deceleration system for Gaganyaan missions," the ISRO wrote on X.

The IADT is a specialised trial to ensure the parachute system designed for the Gaganyaan crew module performs reliably in real-world conditions.

During the test, a dummy crew capsule weighing around five tonnes was lifted up through the air before being dropped by a Chinook helicopter. As it descended through a few km, its main parachutes had to open in a specific sequence to decelerate the capsule to a safe splashdown speed.

During an actual flight with astronauts, the main parachutes will have to deploy after the capsule has re-entered the atmosphere and has been slowed first by the heat shields and drogue parachutes. The ascent, descent, and post-splashdown phases of the Gaganyaan mission are expected to be the most risky for the astronauts.

According to the ISRO, the effort brought together multiple national agencies – the Air Force, the Defence Research and Development Organisation, the Navy, and the Coast Guard – in what officials described as a coordinated step towards human-rating India's launch and recovery systems.

Earlier this week, Union Minister of State for Science and Technology Jitendra Singh told the Lok Sabha that major preparatory work for Gaganyaan had already been completed. "The propulsion systems for the crew module and service module have been developed and tested. Environmental control and life support system engineering model realised. Crew escape system (CES): five types of motors developed and static tested," Mr. Singh said in a written reply.

He said infrastructure had been established for "orbital module preparation facility, Gaganyaan Control Centre, Gaganyaan control facility, crew training facility, [and] second launch pad modifications". A series of precursor missions, including test vehicle flights, were currently under way, he added.

Gaganyaan crew is pioneer of national aspirations: Rajnath

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

Defence Minister felicitates Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla on Sunday. ANI

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Sunday praised Group Captains Shubhanshu Shukla, P.B. Nair, Ajit Krishnan and Angad Pratap, who are part of India's maiden human spaceflight mission Gaganyaan, as "gems of the country and pioneers of national aspirations". He further said Group Captain Shukla's recent space mission to the International Space Station (ISS) marked a new chapter in "self-reliant India".

"We do not see space only as a field of research, but as the future of tomorrow's economy, security, energy, and humanity. We have already marked our presence from moon to Mars, and today, the nation stands fully prepared for missions like Gaganyaan," he said at South Block, where he felicitated Group Captain Shukla and the other Gaganyaan astronauts. He also held discussions with them about Gaganyaan and their experiences so far.

Mr. Singh said India's space programme was a reflection of national aspirations and global vision, citing the successes of Chandrayaan and Mangalyaan. He added that space-derived technologies, from communication satellites to weather monitoring and disaster management, are now delivering services to every part of the country. "In the coming times, space mining, deep space exploration, and planetary resources will redefine the course of human civilisation," he noted.

Commending Group Captain Shukla for his successful mission to the ISS as part of the Axiom Mission-4, the Minister praised his determination and courage. He highlighted how Group Captain Shukla had completed a two-and-a-half year training programme in just two-and-a-half months, calling it a testament to his dedication and the spirit of India.

NCERT textbooks introduce Indian art forms

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

Teaching traditions: Students will be exposed to Indian dance forms such as Bharatnatyam, Kathak, Kathakali, and Kuchipudi.

In line with the National Education Policy that education be rooted in the Indian ethos, the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has included art forms such as Indian classical music, dance, theatre, and visual arts in the new textbooks for Class 3 to 8.

The new arts education textbook, titled *Kriti*, introduced for Class 8 students in the academic year 2025-26, delves into the details of *swar*, *laya*, and *shabd* – the basic components of classical Indian music. The book prescribes the recitation of *shlokas* in Sanskrit through *swar* and *laya* patterns, introduces folk or traditional songs in regional languages, and also exposes students to the patterns of seven notes of classical music in different *layas*. The curriculum also focuses on the rendition of *ragas* from Hindustani and Carnatic music.

Similarly for dance, students are exposed to Indian dance forms such as Bharatnatyam, Kathak, Kathakali, Kuchipudi, Manipuri, Mohiniyattam, Odissi, and Sattriya.

"Before this, there was no school textbook which exposed students to classical forms of dance and music. They would have to enrol in private training for learning these forms. Now they will get exposed to these as a part of the school curriculum," Sangeet Natak Akademi Chairperson Sandhya Purecha, who is also chairing the textbook development team working in collaboration with the NCERT, told *The Hindu*.

The textbook draws heavily from the *Natyashastra*, a Sanskrit treatise on performing arts; *Brihaddeshi*, a Sanskrit text on Indian classical music; and *Sangita Damodara*, among others. Chapters on dance quote from the Sanskrit scripture *Abhinaya Darpanam*, which focuses on expression through *hasta mudras*, or hand gestures.

Basic concepts

Ms. Purecha said that school students were mostly attracted to cultural activities and looked forward to the arts period. "Activities such as storytelling, *abhinaya* (acting or facial expressions), and dance are enjoyed by children," she said.

"Our idea is not to develop a student's expertise in Bharatnatyam or Kathak, or Indian classical music at this stage. That would take years of practice. What we have done in the book is drawn from these concepts, for instance, basic *hasta mudras* (hand gestures) in Indian dance forms, which are photographically depicted and can be incorporated in dance or theatre performances that students conceive. Also, basic leaps, jumps, circles are formations that are derived from classical dances can be incorporated into contemporary or folk dances that students may conceive as a part of their projects," Ms. Purecha said. "Similarly, basics of classical music like *ragas* and *taal* is inculcated so that a student may appreciate a classical singing performance with some background knowledge."

The new textbooks for Class 3 to 5 are titled *Bansuri*, while those for Class 6 to 8 are titled *Kriti*. They expose children to Indian art forms in stages, in an age-appropriate manner, and have been conceived after over a year of deliberations. In the foreword of the Class 8 textbook, NCERT Director Dinesh Saklani notes, "*Kriti* has infused in its visuals and other components, the rich Indian Knowledge systems, India's artistic and cultural heritage, values - all deep[y rooted in Bharat."

Psychology and healthcare courses cannot be offered in distance learning mode: UGC

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Manish Joshi

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has directed all higher education institutions to stop offering programmes in healthcare and allied disciplines, including psychology and nutrition, through open and distance learning or online mode from the 2025 academic session, according to officials.

The ban applies to courses under the National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions (NCAHP) Act, 2021. These include psychology, microbiology, food and nutrition science, biotechnology, clinical nutrition, and dietetics.

"No higher educational institutions shall be permitted to offer any allied and healthcare programmes covered in NCAHP Act, 2021, including psychology as specialisation under Open and Distance Learning and online mode, from the academic session July-August 2025 and onwards. Any recognition already granted to HEIs for offering such programmes for the academic session July-August 2025 and onwards shall be withdrawn by the UGC," UGC Secretary Manish Joshi said.

"In the case of programmes with multiple specialisation such as Bachelor of Arts (English, Hindi, Punjabi, economics, history, mathematics, public administration, philosophy, political science, statistics, human rights and duties, Sanskrit, psychology, geography, sociology, women studies), then only those specialisation covered in NCAHP Act, 2021 shall be withdrawn," he added.

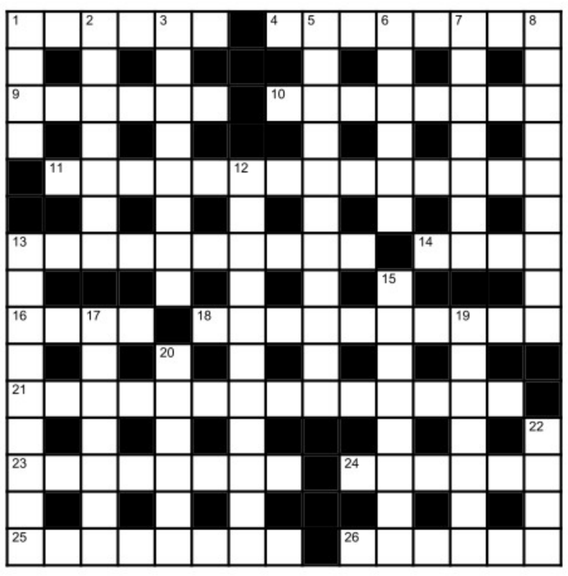
The institutions have been directed not to admit any student in such programmes from the upcoming academic session. The decision comes amid concerns over quality standards in professional training.

TH CROSSWORD + 14572

(set by Hypatia)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Essentially leaving in vehicle for elite food (6)
4 Convicted criminal regularly seen in parties soon met Republican (8)
9 Chase American university to admit son in daughter's place (6)
10 Birds quarrel before fights (8)
11 Pedestrian classification of Vande Bharat Express, for one (4-5,5)
13 Upgrades bookmaker for Spooner (4,6)
14 Say, queen taking fine meat (4)
16 Swindle in shares cornering Asian markets, initially (4)
18 Starter of rice in hot meal is cooked with temperature kept constant (10)
21 Proposal helping to onboard million workers in European firm at Germany (14)
23 Bar for one, replacing leading advocate in practice (8)
24 Cheetah in India eating sesame dip (6)
25 Reportedly critcize authors in hand out (8)
26 Girl at city checking hot skirt (6)

Down

1 Manage children outside park entrance, basically (4)
2 Opinion of ancient Sanskrit scriptures about right time (7)
3 American bachelor at Dubai working outside hot capital city (3,5)
5 Discourage wasting time on the counter packing gift displayed (11)
6 King in clutches of evil goblin (6)
7 Airplane on a terminal carrying latest arrival (7)
8 Bitter criminal enters Gulf? Not good! (9)
12 Specialist bakeries repeatedly re-using ingredients in parties (11)
13 Creature's tail twisted squeezing tight old strap (9)
15 Source of irritation in the exact area so frequently getting hard (4,4)
17 Devices to secure TV show hosts (7)
19 Low crew typing up a boat (7)
20 This referee hates ordering pushier team (6)
22 Upcoming, keen star (4)

SUDOKU

	5		2				7	3
						5		6
	6				9	1	2	
1					2		8	
	9						3	
	8		6					9
	1	6	7				9	
4		3						
9	2				4		6	

No.SS6622 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

	B	B		O		G	S		B		R
B	E	E	R		C	O	A	S	T		U	S	E	R
	T		A		T		R		R		S		N	
S	H	O	W	E	R		B	R	I	G	H	T	O	N
			L		O		A		N		E			
S	P	E	E	D	I	N	G		G	A	L	O	P	S
	H		R				E		U				R	
C	O	A	S	T	A	L		S	P	A	R	T	A	N
	N				R		O				U		W	
R	E	S	O	R	T		D	R	E	S	S	I	N	G
			R		W		Y		X		H			
J	A	C	K	P	O	T	S		C	A	M	P	U	S
	R		N		R		S		E		O		M	
S	K	Y	E		K	E	E	P	S		R	U	B	Y
	S		Y		S		Y		S		E		O	

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

4	9	2	3	1	8	6	5	7
7	8	3	5	4	6	9	2	1
1	5	6	2	9	7	4	8	3
5	1	4	7	6	9	2	3	8
9	3	7	8	2	5	1	4	6
6	2	8	4	3	1	7	9	5
3	6	1	9	5	2	8	7	4
8	4	9	1	7	3	5	6	2
2	7	5	6	8	4	3	1	9

FAITH

The Lord and His devotees

Srimad Bhagavatam shares noble tales of valiant kings, especially in the *Navamaskandam* (Ninth Chapter). These monarchs were deeply devoted and willing to sacrifice. Their significance was so great that even the sages praised them. This section focuses on two dynasties: the Surya Vamsam (Solar Dynasty) and Chandra Vamsam (Lunar Dynasty). Through these lines, the Lord took His cherished incarnations on earth, Sri Ramavataram and Krishnavataram, to reveal the path of truth and devotion.

Sri Hariji said in a discourse that King Ambarisha was a great ruler and devotee. Sage Durvasa tried to wreak havoc on Ambarisha's steadfast *vratha*. Still, Lord Vishnu, to whom the sage had surrendered, who was chased by Sudarsana chakra, the worshipping deity of Ambarisha, told him to return to the king and seek his pardon. Scripture tells us that God always protects His devotees. This only shows that, though the Lord is omniscient, omnipresent, and omnipotent, He abides with His devotees.

The playful deeds or leelas of Lord Krishna in Gokulam are joyful. The gopikas rejoiced in His divine presence and sang His holy names through Krishna Nama Sankeerthanam. This shows us the strength of devotion and the delight that comes from remembering the Lord through His names. The attachment of His followers binds the Lord.

The primary lesson from these stories is that bhakti, or simple devotion, provides the safest path to union with the Lord. Listening to His stories, reciting His names, and remembering Him often are all simple practices that bring us closer to Him. He promises to care for and protect those who surrender to Him.

Emergency fund lapses

Santosh Agarwal

An emergency fund is one of the most important pillars of financial planning. Without an adequate emergency fund in place, a single financial exigency can push one to high-cost debt, premature liquidation of investments and even adversely impact financial health for long term.

Costly errors

Here are some mistakes to avoid in building/maintaining such a fund.

No adequate corpus

For salaried individuals, the fund should be large enough to cover all non-discretionary expenses such as daily living expenses, existing EMIs, utility bills and insurance premiums for at least six months. Self-employed individuals with greater uncertainties in income and cash flows should have a fund, covering at least 9-12 times of unavoidable monthly expenses. Also, in periods of economic uncertainty, salaried individuals must raise the fund size to sustain non-discretionary spends for at least 12 months. Having such a emergency fund will save you from compromisingcrucial financial goals or expensive loans.

Fund in illiquid instruments

As financial exigencies can strike any day, individuals must park the funds in financial instruments offering instant liquidity. They may consider high-yield savings accounts offered by some private sector banks and small finance banks, with savings account interest rates of up to 7%, depending on the balance maintained in the accounts. Those comfortable with Internet/mobile banking can consider high-yield fixed deposits offered by some scheduled banks for the funds.

Investing in high risk assets

Attracted by the possibility of earning attractive returns, some may think of investing the fund corpus in equities (including equity funds) or other high-risk asset classes. While equities as an asset class usually outperforms other asset classes by a wide margin over the long term, it can be highly volatile in the short term. Thus, any sharp erosion in the corpus coinciding with a financial emergency can seriously undermine the very purpose of maintaining the fund. One should stick to fixed income instruments like fixed deposits, high-yield savings account, liquid funds, overnight funds, etc. for parking the corpus.

Funding non-essential needs

An emergency fund is supposed to serve only one purpose - to deal with financial emergencies. However, the significant size of a fund may tempt one to use it for consumption purpose or for filling up the shortfalls for other life goals. For example, someone planning to avail a loan to buy a house may think of tapping into the fund to make a higher down payment. This should be avoided as any financial exigency occurring thereafter may force the individual to avail loan at higher rates or redeem his/her existing investments earmarked for other financial goals – possibly at a loss during market corrections or bearish markets.

Not reviewing fund size

Like most things in life, the size of an emergency fund should not remain static. As your monthly expenses rise due to inflation and lifestyle upgrades, the emergency fund corpus should also grow proportionately. Similarly, events like marriage, birth of a child, taking or paying off a loan, etc or instability in your job or broader economic environment should require immediate re-evaluation of emergency fund requirements.

If the size of your emergency fund cannot be increased immediately, try to increase it to the required size via staggered contributions with high priority.

Not replenishing fund

Once you tap into your emergency fund to manage a financial exigency, make sure to restore it back to its required size at the earliest.

Prioritise its restoration by diverting some of your existing liquid investments to your emergency fund or by redeeming a portion of your equity or other market-related investments. Else, rebuild it by making regular contributions in a staggered manner.

(The writer is CEO of Paisabazaar)

Send queries on personal finance and investing to the moneywise@thehindu.co.in ID. Our experts in personal finance will respond to select queries, but will not give specific recommendations for investment in a particular mutual fund, share or fixed deposit.

Dawn of new money: Bitcoin, ethereum and the stablecoin USDT are promoted at a cryptocurrency store in Hong Kong. AFP

Cryptocurrency: unlocking the digital vaults

Millions of people globally are investing in cryptos but do not follow them blindly; if you don't know what you're buying, then, you are not investing, you are just gambling with your money

VIRTUAL MONEY

Vaishali R Venkat

Two decades ago, if you had told someone you were investing in a currency not regulated by the government, or didn't bear the signature of RBI Governor and couldn't be seen but only stored in virtual wallets, they would have laughed at you.

Fast forward to 2025. Several firms have started accepting crypto payments. Millions of people, including in India, are investing in crypto coins. But should you blindly jump on the crypto bandwagon?

Only if you have the knowledge of it's working. If you don't know what you're buying, you are gambling with money.

So, before you start driving the crypto vehicle, let's decipher how this engine is built and what are its spare parts. How does the vehicle operate without the driver - that is the Central bank? And, the fuel that runs the vehicle.

To answer all the questions, we need to understand a technology that fuels this complicated and evolving system – the blockchain. It's the backbone - or the engine - that drives the crypto vehicle. Let's find out what makes it so different compared with traditional investments.

About cryptocurrency

The term 'crypto' is derived from the Greek word 'kryptos', which means hidden or secret. As the name indicates, cryptocurrency, popularly known as crypto or coins, uses cryptography to secure transactions. You cannot see or touch the crypto coins physically. You need not visit a bank for transaction. It's not controlled by any single institution such as the SEBI, the RBI, or even the Government of India.

> Cryptocurrency, known as crypto or coins, uses cryptography to secure transactions. You cannot see or touch crypto coins physically. You need not visit bank for transaction

The entire process is executed behind several layers of encryption, algorithms, and codes on multiple servers. It's a decentralised network of computers, called nodes, that verifies and records each transaction. The nodes ensure transparency and security without the need for centralised intermediaries.

What is blockchain?

Imagine the blockchain as a combination of a traditional accountant's notebook, wherein everyday transactions are recorded, and a common Google Sheet, the link to which is shared with people across the world.

In a traditional ledger, each page contains several transaction entries. Once the page ends, you flip to the next to record fresh transactions. None of the fresh pages is isolated; the closing balance of the previous page becomes the opening balance of the next viz. each page is linked to the previous one. Once it is completed, it can't be altered or erased.

> A blockchain ensures transparency, security and trust and all these happen without the aid of a bank; everything is taken care of by behind-the-scenes nodes

In cryptocurrencies, this digital ledger is known as blockchain. Technically, blockchain contains the complete transaction history of a particular cryptocurrency. Every time a transaction takes place, someone makes an entry into this digital notebook. In a blockchain, each page is called a block. Once a particular block is done with the transactions, it's sealed permanently, time stamped and linked to the next block (page) through a unique code called hash.

In a similar vein, you can keep adding block after block to the digital ledger, forming a long chain. That's why this digital ledger is called blockchain.

In a traditional setup, not everyone has access to a manual accounts book, except the chief accountants or the authorities concerned. But blockchain is like a globally-shared Google Sheet and everyone in the network has the link to it. Since anyone can access it, they can view the entries in a block and add new ones. But here's the catch: no one can delete, erase or tamper with the previous entries and the transaction history is recorded for ever.

How does it work?

Every time a transaction occurs, say, Ram sends a crypto coin to Shyam, it gets bundled with the previous transactions into a block. If Shyam then sends the coin to Nitish, that transaction is also added to the same block. Once the block is full, it's sealed and linked to the next block with a hash. Further, whenever a new entry is made, everyone in the network can see the updated record - think of it like a shared G-Sheet. Thus, a blockchain ensures transparency, security and trust and all these happen without the aid of a bank, without a central authority or an intermediary. Everything is taken care of by the behind-the-screen nodes.

Now that you know what a blockchain is, the next question is who adds the blocks and how they get added? This is the foundation on which lies the operation of cryptocurrencies and is helpful in deciding if a coin is worth investing. We'll explore that in detail in the next part.

(The writer is an NISM & CRISIL-certified Wealth Manager and certified in NISM's Research Analyst module)

Twists in hospital insurance

COVERNOTE

K. Nitya Kalyani

Service providers flood us with marketing material and the real information or transactional messages are easily missed.

Zone-based premium

One such communication was an email from the insurer with whom I have my hospitalisation policy and it conveyed an unhappy announcement. It said hospitalisation premiums henceforth will be charged according to the zone in which the insured lives and pegged to an individual's age and not age-slabs as is the case now.

The first change means premium will be higher in certain cities grouped as Zone 1 and layered for Zone 2, 3 etc. Each insurer has its own definition of zones and usually, major metropolitan cities with higher healthcare costs will carry higher premiums than others. That is the shape of things to come and insurers are, as expected, presenting this market segmentation as something beneficial to us!

One insurer said such rating reduces the premium paid by 10-20% and people living in lower-cost areas will benefit. I can envision nobody's rates going down, but that higher cost zone rates will definitely jump.

What if you live in Zone 2 and get treated in Zone 1? Either you have an add-on cover for that contingency or the co-pay will be higher. If the opposite happens you don't get any benefit though treatment costs less in Zone 2 or 3 than in Zone 1 for which you have paid premium.

Age-wise premiums means where one paid a certain premium from age 50 to 55, there will be enhancement each year. This flies in the face of one of the most basic tenets of insurance, namely group-loss experience and the spreading of risk. According to this, the loss experience of the 50-55 age group is supposed to be set off by the premium calculated on the basis of historical hospitalisation and claims data experience for that demographic.

However, individual hospitalisation expenses for each of us may take place in a specific year, let's say, and that represents a spike in one year out of five. Some may have more than one hospitalisation and others none and at different ages for different insureds. Taken over the five-year period, these spikes are smoothened out and that is how insurance spreads risk. This advantage is lost to the insured with age-wise premium rating.

It brings to mind shrinkflation, the marketing art of shrinking a product offering and selling it at same price. Both the moves echo of that strategy. You pay the same (or more) for essentially a truncated offering, a smaller geographical zone or price stability for a shorter period.

The changes are happening on the top of hospitalisation cover premiums having seen substantial hikes (easily 50-100%) over the last year or so. These are some of the nuances of rising costs detailed in the earlier installment of *CoverNote*. Insurers are mitigating these with some offers and sops.

(The writer is a business journalist specialising in insurance & corporate history)

Bank Fixed Deposit Rates

Bank Name	Interest Rates (%) Highest Slab	1-year Tenure	3-year Tenure	5-year Tenure
Small Finance Banks				
AU Small Finance Bank	7.1	6.35	7.1	6.75
Equitas Small Finance Bank	7.6	7.25	7.25	7
ESAF Small Finance Bank	7.6	4.75	6	5.75
Jana Small Finance Bank	8	7.25	7.5	8
slice Small Finance Bank	8.5	6.75	8.25	7.75
Suryoday Small Finance Bank	8.2	7.5	7.75	8.2
Ujjivan Small Finance Bank	7.45	7.25	7.2	7.2
Unity Small Finance Bank	6.75	6.5	6.75	6.75
Utkarsh Small Finance Bank	7.65	6	7.65	7.25
Private Sector Banks				
Axis Bank	6.6	6.25	6.6	6.6
Bandhan Bank	7.3	7.1	7	5.85
City Union Bank	6.75	6.75	6.65	6.25
CSB Bank	6.8	5	5.75	5.75
DBS Bank	6.55	6.3	6.4	6.25
DCB Bank	7.2	6.9	7	7
Federal Bank	6.7	6.4	6.5	6.5
HDFC Bank	6.6	6.25	6.45	6.4
ICICI Bank	6.6	6.25	6.6	6.6
IDFC FIRST Bank	6.75	6.3	6.75	6.6
IndusInd Bank	7	6.75	6.75	6.65
Jammu & Kashmir Bank	7.3	6.75	6.75	6.5
Karur Vysya Bank	6.85	6.6	6.6	6.6
Karnataka Bank	6.65	6.5	6.15	6.15
Kotak Mahindra Bank	6.6	6.25	6.4	6.25
RBL Bank	7.2	7	7.2	6.7
SBM Bank India	8	7.75	8	7.5
South Indian Bank	6.6	6.6	6.2	5.7
Tamilnad Mercantile Bank	7.05	6.8	6.25	6.25
YES Bank	7	6.65	7	6.75
Public Sector Banks				
Bank of Baroda	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.4
Bank of India	6.6	6.25	6.25	6
Bank of Maharashtra	6.7	6.2	6.2	6.1
Canara Bank	6.5	6.25	6.25	6.25
Central Bank of India	7	6.5	6.5	6.5
Indian Bank	6.7	6.1	6.25	6
Indian Overseas Bank	6.75	6.6	6.2	6.2
Punjab National Bank	6.6	6.4	6.4	6.5
Punjab & Sind Bank	6.7	6	6	6.1
State Bank of India	6.6	6.25	6.3	6.05
Union Bank of India	6.6	6.4	6.6	6.4

Home Loan Interest Rates

Name of Lender	Loan Amount (Rs.) Upto 30 lakh	Above 30 lakh & upto 75 lakh	Above 75 lakh
			(In %)
Public Sector Banks			
State Bank of India	7.50-8.95	7.50-8.95	7.50-8.95
Bank of Baroda	7.45-9.25	7.45-9.25	7.45-9.50
Union Bank of India*	7.35-10.00	7.35-10.00	7.35-10.00
Punjab National Bank	7.45 #	7.45 #	7.45 #
Bank of India	7.35-10.10	7.35-10.10	7.35-10.35
Bank of Maharashtra	7.35-10.15	7.35-10.15	7.35-10.15
Punjab and Sind Bank	7.55-10.75	7.55-10.75	7.55-10.75
Indian Overseas Bank	7.35 #	7.35 #	7.35 #
Indian Bank	7.40-9.40	7.40-9.40	7.40-9.40
Central Bank of India	7.35-9.40	7.35-9.40	7.35-9.40
Private Sector Banks			
Kotak Mahindra Bank	7.99 #	7.99 #	7.99 #
ICICI Bank	7.70 #	7.70 #	7.70 #
Axis Bank	8.35-11.90	8.35-11.90	8.35-9.35
HSBC Bank	7.70 #	7.70 #	7.70 #
South Indian Bank	7.75 #	7.75 #	7.75 #
Karur Vysya Bank	7.95-10.90	7.95-10.90	7.95-10.90
Karnataka Bank	8.19-10.74	8.19-10.74	8.19-10.74
Federal Bank	8.75 #	8.75 #	8.75 #
Tamilnad Mercantile Bank	8.15-9.50	8.15-9.50	8.15-9.50
Bandhan Bank	8.41-15.00	8.41-12.58	8.41-12.58
RBL Bank	8.20 #	8.20 #	8.20 #
CSB Bank	9.39-11.08	9.39-11.08	9.39-11.08
HDFC Bank	7.90 #	7.90 #	7.90 #
City Union Bank	8.25-9.50	8.50-10.00	8.75-10.50
Housing Finance Companies (HFCs)			
LIC Housing Finance	7.50 #	7.50 #	7.50 #
Bajaj Housing Finance	7.35 #	7.35 #	7.35 #
Tata Capital	7.75 #	7.75 #	7.75 #
PNB Housing Finance	8.25-11.50	8.25-11.50	8.25-10.85
GIC Housing Finance	8.20 #	8.20 #	8.20 #
SMFG India Home Finance	10.00 #	10.00 #	10.00 #
Sammaan Capital	8.75 #	8.75 #	8.75 #
Aditya Birla Capital	8.25 #	8.25 #	8.25 #
ICICI Home Finance	7.50 #	7.50 #	7.50 #
Godrej Housing Finance	8.55 #	8.55 #	8.55 #

***Extra interest rate concession of 0.05% to borrowers opting for insurance policy.**
#onwards Rates as on August 20 Source:Paisabazaar.com

SEOUL

Kim oversees test-firing of two new air defence missiles in North Korea

AP

North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has overseen the test-firing of two new air defence missiles, state media said on Sunday. The test-firing, which took place on Saturday, showed that the two "improved" missile weapon systems had "superior combat capability", the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) reported. AFP

DEIR AL-BALAH

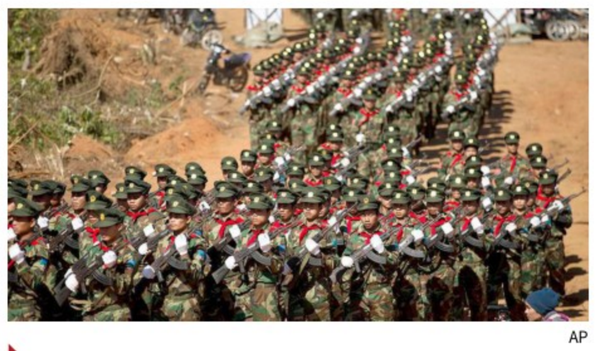
Four shot dead by Israeli forces while seeking aid near Gaza City

AP

Israeli forces shot dead four Palestinian aid-seekers travelling on Sunday through a military zone south of Gaza City that is regularly used to reach a food distribution point. Gaza City is in famine after 22 months of war, while Israel's military moves ahead with a planned offensive to seize the city, perhaps within days. AP

YANGON

Myanmar junta blames rebels for the bombing of historic rail bridge



AP

Myanmar's ruling military junta said on Sunday that a colonial-era bridge that was once the world's highest railway trestle had been "bombed" by the TNLA rebel group. Standing 102 m above a gorge, the Gokteik Viaduct is the highest bridge in Myanmar and was the tallest railway trestle when it opened in 1901. AFP

PORT SUDAN

Sudan's paramilitary group shells hospital, abducts 8 in besieged city

AP

Sudan's paramilitary Rapid Support Forces shelled a hospital in North Darfur's besieged city of El-Fasher and abducted six women and two children from a displacement camp, rescuers and a medic said on Sunday. More than 20 camp residents were missing, the rescuers said, warning the actual number could be higher. AFP

Former Sri Lankan Presidents, prominent Opposition leaders condemn Ranil's arrest

They accuse the National People's Power (NPP) government of pursuing 'political revenge', contending that charges against Wickremesinghe did not warrant arrest; Maithripala Sirisena, who had sacked Ranil as his PM in 2018, says latest actions go against the country's basic democratic principles

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Former Presidents of Sri Lanka and prominent members of the political opposition have condemned the recent arrest of former President Ranil Wickremesinghe for allegedly misusing public funds while in office.

Addressing a media conference in Colombo on Sunday, they accused the National People's Power (NPP) government of pursuing "political revenge", contending that the charges against Mr. Wickremesinghe did not warrant arrest.

United front: Opposition members address the media on Ranil Wickremesinghe's arrest in Colombo on Sunday . MEERA SRINIVASAN

On Friday, the Sri Lankan police arrested Mr. Wickremesinghe, 76, after questioning him about his 2023 visit to the United Kingdom, to attend a ceremony with his wife. Mr. Wickremesinghe is accused of spending LKR 16.6 million, or about $55,000, of state funds during his Presidency, on the "private visit" to Britain.

Mr. Wickremesinghe was remanded in custody on Friday and shifted to the Intensive Care Unit of the Colombo National Hospital on Saturday.

Former President Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga termed the arrest a "calculated onslaught on the very essence of our democratic values". Issuing a statement, the senior politician said, "The consequences of this go far beyond the fate of an individual or any political grouping and involve peril for the rights of our society as a whole."

Several politicians, including the allies of Mahinda Rajapaksa and some others who lost or did not contest last year's elections, joined the media conference held at a Colombo hotel, which was titled 'Let's defeat the constitutional dictatorship'. Former President Maithripala Sirisena – who in 2018 controversially sacked Mr. Wickremesinghe, then his Prime Minister, in a move that the Supreme Court later ruled was illegal – said, "our country is used to very open democratic practices... such actions go against those basic principles." Leader of Opposition Sajith Premadasa was absent.

Former minister G.L. Peiris said while corruption "must be eradicated from our body politic", Mr. Wickremesinghe's arrest was unwarranted as "there was no fear of his absconding".

Tamil Progressive Alliance Leader and opposition MP Mano Ganesan said, "The government could have kept its pledge and proven old allegations of overseeing torture and a massive scam (at the Central Bank) against Mr. Wickremesinghe. Instead, it resorted to charges of misusing public funds...this is political revenge." Sri Lanka Muslim Congress Leader Rauff Hakeem slammed the government for treating Mr. Wickremesinghe "like a common criminal" for "applause from the gallery,".

'Trump will deploy troops in Chicago after Washington'

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

Donald Trump

The Trump administration has been planning for weeks to deploy National Guard troops in Chicago as part of an expanded crackdown on crime and immigration, according to reports in U.S. media.

The Pentagon has been sketching out plans that could mobilise several thousand National Guard members to the nation's third-largest city as early as September, *The Washington Post* reported, quoting unidentified officials familiar with the matter.

The Pentagon refused to confirm the reports. "We won't speculate on further operations," a defence official said. "The Department is a planning organisation and is continuously working with other agency partners on plans to protect federal assets and personnel," the official said.

The reports come after Mr. Trump deployed National Guard troops this month in Washington DC, where another official said personnel would soon be carrying weapons.

Drone strike sparks fire at Russian nuclear plant

Associated Press

Russia accused Ukraine on Sunday of launching drone attacks that sparked a fire at a nuclear power plant in its western Kursk region overnight, as Ukraine celebrated 34 years since its independence.

Officials said power and energy facilities were targeted in the overnight strikes. The fire at the nuclear facility was extinguished with no injuries reported. While the attack damaged a transformer, radiation levels remained within normal ranges. The United Nations' nuclear watchdog said it was aware of media reports that a transformer at the plants had caught fire "due to military activity," but had not received confirmation.

'Security guarantee, no NATO are Russia's terms for peace'

Reuters
MOSCOW

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said in an interview published on Sunday that a group of nations including United Nations Security Council members should be the guarantors of Ukraine's security.

Mr. Lavrov told *NBC News*' "*Meet the Press*" that Russian President Vladimir Putin and U.S. President Donald Trump had discussed the issue of a security guarantee for Ukraine and that Mr. Putin had raised the issue of the failed Istanbul discussions of 2022.

Sergey Lavrov

Talks of 2022

At those discussions, Russia and Ukraine discussed Ukraine's permanent neutrality in return for security guarantees from the five permanent members of the UN Security Council: Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States, and other countries, according to a copy of a draft agreement seen by Reuters in 2022.

Mr. Lavrov told NBC that a group including Security Council members should guarantee Ukraine's security. The group could also include Germany and Turkiye and other countries, Mr. Lavrov said.

"And the guarantors would be guaranteeing the security of Ukraine, which must be neutral, which must be non-aligned with any military bloc and which must be non-nuclear," Mr. Lavrov said.

Mr. Lavrov also made it clear that NATO membership for Ukraine was unacceptable for Russia, that Russia wanted protection for Russian speakers in Ukraine and that there was a territorial discussion to be had with Ukraine.

Vance's remark

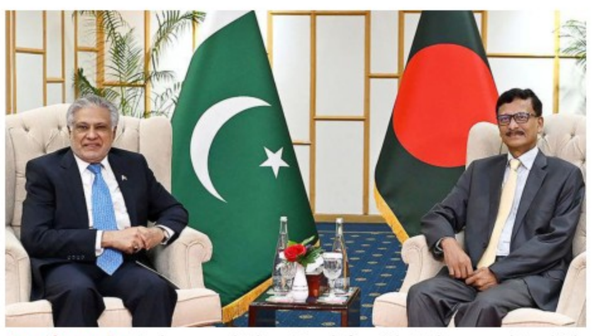
Meanwhile, U.S. Vice-President J.D. Vance rejected suggestions Moscow is slow-walking a potential peace deal in Ukraine, saying Russia has made "significant concessions" to Donald Trump over its demands for ending the war.

Pakistan Foreign Minister asks Bangladesh to move past the 'unresolved issues' of 1971

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Bangladesh should "clean" its heart and move ahead by leaving the "unresolved issue" of Pakistan's accountability in the atrocities committed by the Pakistani military in 1971, said Mohammad Ishaq Dar, Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister of Pakistan on Sunday in Dhaka.

Mr. Dar, the first Foreign Minister of Pakistan to visit Bangladesh in a decade, met Prof. Mohammed Yunus, Chief Adviser to the government of Bangladesh. Pakistan and Bangladesh also signed a treaty that will allow diplomats of both sides to travel without visas.



Repair mode: Mohammad Ishaq Dar, left, with Mohammad Touhid Hossain during a bilateral meeting in Dhaka on Sunday. AFP

"In 1974, that issue was resolved. After that General Musharraf came here and addressed this [issue] in a candid manner and I think even Islam tells us to clean your hearts," Mr. Dar said after holding talks with the interim government's Adviser on Foreign Affairs Touhid Hossein.

The issue of accountability of Pakistan for the atrocities of 1971 has been a long standing obstacle in normalising ties. Mr. Dar indirectly referred to the Tripartite Agreement of 1974 signed by Bangladesh, India and Pakistan where Pakistan had acknowledged the involvement of its military in the atrocities, and referred to the "regret" expressed by General Musharraf during his 2002 visit of Dhaka.

Mr. Hossein said: "We want accountability, reparations. We want Pakistan to express remorse and seek forgiveness for the mass killings that took place here". He also acknowledged that China is supportive of Pakistan-Bangladesh bilateral ties.

COOL CUSTOMER

It was always reassuring to see Pujara walk in at No. 3: Tendulkar

GETTY IMAGES

Cheteshwar Pujara, it was always reassuring to see you walk out at No. 3. You brought calm, courage, and a deep love for Test cricket every time you played. Out of many, the 2018-19 series win in Australia stands out, it wouldn't have been possible without your incredible resilience and match-winning runs — Sachin Tendulkar

TOP STUFF

He gave it his all for the country: Kumble hails Pujara's contribution

GETTY IMAGES

You have been a great ambassador of this wonderful game. We are all proud of your achievements on the cricket field. You gave it your all for the team! It was a privilege to have worked with you and may you continue to shine in your second innings — Anil Kumble on Pujara.

TRUSTED ALLY

Will always cherish our special Test wins together: Rahane

ICC

India cricketer Ajinkya Rahane hailed his long-time batting ally Cheteshwar Pujara and said: "Congratulations Pujji on a wonderful career. Loved every moment of playing alongside you and will always cherish our special Test wins together. Best wishes for the second innings!," he said about the Saurashtra batter.

TRADITIONAL STAR

A shining example of perseverance and selflessness, says BCCI

ICC

Pujara's career is an example of perseverance and selflessness. He personified the spirit of Test cricket. His immense powers of concentration made him the bulwark of India's batting. He showed it was possible to succeed at the highest level while staying true to traditional values of the game — BCCI Secretary Devajit Saikia

Pujara, the quintessential Test batter, calls it a day

The Saurashtra stalwart's uncanny ability to blunt opposition bowlers came to the fore time and again; the No. 3 was at his peak during India's maiden series triumph Down Under in 2018-19

CRICKET

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

Cheteshwar Pujara, one of the foremost Test specialists of the 21st century, announced his retirement from all forms of cricket. The 37-year-old took to social media on Sunday morning to reveal his decision.

"As a little boy from the small town of Rajkot, along with my parents, I set out to aim for the stars; and dreamt to be a part of the Indian cricket team. Little did I know then that this game would give me so much – invaluable opportunities, experiences, purpose, love, and above all a chance to represent my State and this great Nation," Pujara wrote in a statement.

"Wearing the Indian jersey, singing the anthem, and trying my best each time I stepped on the field – it's impossible to put into words what it truly meant. But as they say, all good things must come to an end, and with immense gratitude I have decided to retire from all forms of Indian cricket."

Even though the 37-year-old last featured in a Test more than two years ago, Pujara was active on the domestic circuit. Saurashtra's Ranji Trophy quarterfinal loss to Gujarat in February turned out to be his last competitive appearance in a First Class career spanning almost two decades.

Out of his 278 First Class appearances, Pujara revelled in a majority of the 103 Tests he played for India.

While knee injuries curtailed his limited-over career – Pujara played the last of his five ODIs and the final one of his 30 IPL matches in 2014 – he emerged as the successor to Rahul Dravid at No. 3 in white flannels.

More than his tally of 7195 Test runs at 43.60, including 19 hundreds and 35 fifties, it was Pujara's ability to blunt bowling attacks that came to the fore time and again.

He was at his peak during India's maiden Test series triumph in Australia in 2018-19. Pujara not only scored 521 runs to finish as the top-scorer in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, but also faced a whopping 1258 balls.

Pujara contributed to Saurashtra's emergence as a force to reckon with in domestic cricket. His tally of 21301 First Class runs is the fourth-highest by an Indian.

No Indian batter has scored more than Pujara's 18 double hundreds. He is also a member of an elite club which has notched up three triple hundreds.

Reliable performer: Pujara provided solidity at the No. 3 spot for more than a decade. GETTY IMAGES

An era of classical batting ends as Pujara walks into the sunset

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
CHENNAI

Solidity at the crease and a sense of dignity remained Cheteshwar Pujara's special attributes. As the Indian batter announced his retirement from cricket on Sunday, an era has ended.

In an age of bling and mighty sixes, Pujara was about classical batsmanship marinated in Test whites.

The old-fashioned batter wore down mighty bowling attacks, took blows on his body, and laid the foundation for effervescent teammates like Virat Kohli. It is a thread that links him to Rahul Dravid.

Both men largely did duty at No. 3 in Tests, they stemmed the initial crack, and they were a shield to the next man. In both cases, the No. 4 was a superstar, Sachin Tendulkar or Kohli, drawing raucous affection from the crowd.

Incidentally, Pujara made his Test debut in Dravid's hometown Bengaluru in 2010, against Australia, an opponent he often defied through his storied career.

One for the long haul

A brisk second innings 72 in a winning chase marked out Pujara as one for the long haul. The promising start, however, was marred by injury, and a knee surgery and its after-effects affected him. But he returned and once Dravid retired, made the No. 3 spot his own.

Leaving the ball, defending as if his life-breath depended on it, and getting his eye in before essaying some shots, were all part of Pujara's copybook. Hailing from Rajkot and representing Saurashtra in First Class cricket, Pujara revealed an enormous appetite for runs.

Daddy hundreds were his norm and in Tests, the runs, doughty and enduring, flowed. As he finishes with 7195 runs averaging 43.60 from 103 Tests, and with 19 tons to boot, Pujara can look back with pride at a splendid career.

He last played for India in 2023; leading up to it, the runs had dried up. With Pujara preferring to rest his feet, a distinct stage in Indian cricket has concluded.

Ultimate tribute

Having moved into the commentator's chair, an ultimate tribute was paid to Pujara when Aussie speedsters, while talking to him on air, told him: "Good, not to bowl to you Puji."

They would know, as Pujara was a leading champion when India defeated Australia in its backyard in the 2018-19 series. He scored three hundreds then, and in the 2020-21 away series, played a gritty hand as India prevailed over host Australia.

At 37, Pujara has decided to move on while his place in the pantheon of Indian batting greats is assured.

Eye on the ball: Pujara wore down mighty bowling attacks, took blows on his body, and laid the foundation. GETTY IMAGES

Copybook: Once he got his eye in, Pujara showcased his repertoire. K.R. DEEPAK

Etched in memory: Pujara, Kohli and Rahane shake a leg after India's maiden Test series win in Australia. FILE PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

Pujara's journey in the longest format

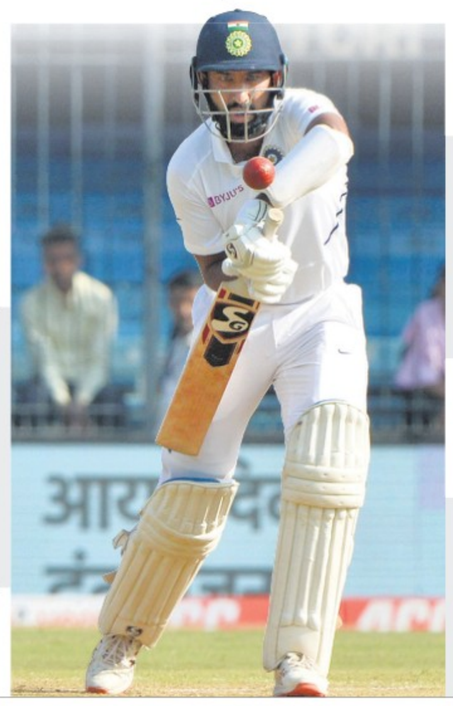
	M	Inns	Runs	HS	Avg	100s/50s
Overall	103	176	7195	206*	43.60	19/35
Home	51	80	3839	206*	52.58	10/20
Away	50	92	3292	193	37.40	9/15
Neutral	2	4	64	27	16.00	0/0
BY OPPONENT						
	M	Inns	Runs	HS	Avg	100s/50s
England	27	49	1778	206*	39.51	5/7
Australia	25	45	2074	204	49.38	5/11
South Africa	17	29	882	153	30.41	1/6
New Zealand	12	23	867	159	39.40	2/4
West Indies	9	10	348	113	34.80	1/1
Sri Lanka	7	11	743	153	74.30	4/1
Bangladesh	5	8	468	102*	78.00	1/5
Afghanistan	1	1	35	35	35.00	0/0

Your aggression was visible in your defence

A real warrior. He was instrumental in India being the No. 1 side for five years on the trot during my coaching stint... he was simply brilliant in the two back-to-back series wins in Australia. Well done, Puji
RAVI SHASTRI

His courage, grit and determination stood out and the body blows he took in the Gabba Test we won against Australia symbolised Pujara the cricketer for me: willing to give everything he has for his country
V.V.S. LAXMAN

Congratulations on a fabulous Test career, Cheteshwar. Your grit, determination and hard work was inspiring... you can be very proud of what you have achieved
VIRENDER SEHWAG



Someone who always put his mind, body and soul for the country! Many congratulations on an outstanding career, Puji! See you on the other side!
YUVRAJ SINGH

He stood tall when the storm raged, he fought when hope was fading. Congratulations, Puji.
GAUTAM GAMBHIR

Your grit has always spoken before your name. Your aggression was visible in your defence and you made India proud, Puji
IRFAN PATHAN

INBRIEF

Sohil storms to victory from pole in IRL second round

Sohil Shah (Kolkata Royal Tigers) converted his spectacular pole position into a commanding victory in a start-stop race as the curtains came down on the second round of the Indian Racing League in Chennai on Sunday.

In the Indian F4 championship, which had three races on the day, Ishaan Madesh was the standout driver, claiming a win and a third place. In race-4, Rotge claimed his second win of the weekend ahead of Luviwe Sambudla and Saishiva.

Sidharth takes the honours in Thailand ITF tournament

Sixth seed Sidharth Rawat beat Markus Malaszszak of Thailand 6-4, 6-2 in the final of the $15,000 ITF men's tennis tournament in Nakhon Pathom, Thailand, on Sunday. It was a fighting performance by Sidharth all the way, as he had won three of the earlier four rounds in three sets, that included a win over third seed Max Basing of Britain. It was the third singles title in the professional circuit for the 32-year-old, who trains with coach Gaurav Sharma in the Capital.

India thrashes Bhutan in SAFF U17 Women's Championships

Anuskha Kumari scored a hat-trick as India thrashed host Bhutan 8-0 registering its third consecutive win at the SAFF U17 Women's Championships on Sunday. Besides Kumari's (53rd, 61st, 73rd), Abhista Basnett (23rd, 89th) scored a brace while Pearl Fernandes (71st), Divyani Linda (77th), and Valaina Jada Fernandes (90+2) were also on target. India led 1-0 at half-time. With this dominant result, the Young Tigresses have now scored 17 goals in three matches without conceding once, tightening their grip on top of the table.

Rashid Khan to lead Afghanistan in Asia Cup

Rashid Khan, on Sunday, was named captain of a spin heavy Afghanistan squad for the upcoming Asia Cup.

The squad: Rashid Khan, Rahmanullah Gurbaz, Ibrahim Zadran, Darwish Rasooli, Sediqullah Atal, Azmatullah Omarzai, Karim Janat, Mohammad Nabi, Gulbadin Naib, Sharafuddin Ashraf, Mohammad Ishaq, Noor Ahmad, Mujeeb ur Rahman, AM Ghazanfar, Farid Ahmad Malik, Fazalhaq Farooqi, Naveen ul Haq.
Reserves: Wafiullah Tarakhil, Nangeyalia Kharote, Abdullah Ahmadzai.

LIVE TELECAST

Maharaja T20 trophy: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & FanCode, 3.15 & 7.15 p.m.
US Open: SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 8.30 p.m.
Serie A: DAZN, 10 p.m. & 12.15 a.m. (Tuesday)
LaLiga: FanCode, 11 p.m. & 1 a.m. (Tuesday)

Dragons canters to a victory against Blasters

Openers Sharath and Lochan hit half-centuries and put on 99 runs as the Mangaluru franchise reaches the target in 16.1 overs

Hitting out: Sharath's match-winning knock was studded nine fours and one six. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

MAHARAJA TROPHY

C.K. Muralidharan
MYSURU

Mangaluru Dragons was well served by its openers, impact player B.R. Sharath (72 n.o, 47b, 9x4, 1x6) and Lochan S. Gowda (55, 32b, 6x4, 2x6), as it registered a nine-wicket win over Bengaluru Blasters in the Maharaja Trophy on Sunday.

Set a target of 147, Dragons knocked off the runs in 16.1 overs thanks to Sharath and Lochan batting with ease to add 99 runs in 56 balls.

Later, Sharath and Aashish Mahesh (16 n.o.) added 50 to take Dragons home.

Sharath impressed with his bold stroke-play and took heavy toll of the Blasters bowlers along with Lochan, who played some exquisite shots.

Earlier, Blasters put into bat, scored 146 for nine in its 20 overs with Shubhang Hegde (39, 29b, 2x4, 2x6) and Suraj Ahuja (36, 26b, 3x4, 1x6) batting well.

Dragons' skipper Shreyas Gopal impressed with figures of three for 29.

The scores:
Bengaluru Blasters 146/9 in 20 overs (Shubhang Hegde 39, Suraj Ahuja 36, Abhilash Shetty 2/27, Shreyas Gopal 3/29) lost to Mangaluru Dragons 149/1 in 16.1 overs (B.R. Sharath 72 n.o., Lochan S. Gowda 55).
Toss: Blasters; **PoM:** Sharath.
On Saturday: Bengaluru Blasters 164/7 in 20 overs (Suraj Ahuja 54, Rohan Naveen 34 n.o., Vyshak Vijayakumar 3/34) lost to Gulbarga Mystics 167/3 in 19.2 overs (R. Smaran 89 n.o., Shubhang Hegde 2/31).
Toss: Mystics.
PoM: Smaran.

Gill is special: Punjab head coach Sandeep

Full of praise: Sandeep commended Gill's consistency and camaraderie with teammates. FILE PHOTO: K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

Tarun Shastry
CHENNAI

Thirty-three years is a long time – just ask Punjab, and they'll tell you it feels even longer. The last time the State laid hands on a major red-ball title was back in the 1992-93 season, when it outclassed Maharashtra to be crowned champions of India's premier domestic competition, the Ranji Trophy. Now, head coach Sandeep Sharma is hoping to turn the tide. Sharma believes his team has both the talent and the skill to go the distance this time around.

He also spoke about India's Test captain Shubman Gill, who also represents Punjab, highlighting how his rise serves as an inspiration for the squad – along with Abhishek Sharma and Arshdeep Singh.

"We haven't had red-ball success for a long time. This time we've consciously taken steps to focus more on red-ball cricket", said Sharma. "We have a young and talented squad. We are guiding them while also learning from them. It's a process, and I feel we're in a good space at the moment", added Sharma.

"Shubman is a special player. I've seen him since he was around 15 years old – we knew even then that he was destined to go far. It was clear – Shubman was going to be world-class.

"Now he's the captain of the Indian team and vice-captain in the white-ball formats. He has worked closely with Yuvi (Yuvraj Singh), and they share a strong bond. During Covid, he and Abhishek Sharma trained and stayed together – they used to work out, practice, and push each other. That kind of discipline and hunger pays off. What you see today is the result of consistent effort and focus."

"You want to play for India? You need to have a 1000+ run season. That's how you get noticed. Karun Nair made his comeback because of his consistency. That's the mindset we're trying to build – that hunger to go big. We just want to make sure the process is right, and we're helping them along the way," signed off coach Sharma.

Punjab gets the better of Madhya Pradesh

BUCHI BABU

Sports Bureau
CHENNAI

Uday Pratap Saharan hammered a composed century (109), while skipper Anmolpreet Singh (72) and Anmol Malhotra (87) played crucial supporting roles to help Punjab gain a significant 165-run first-innings lead and pave the way for its six-wicket win over Madhya Pradesh on the final day of the All India Buchi Babu tournament at the MRF-Pachaiyappa's ground on Sunday.

In the second essay, MP could manage only 230 for eight in the allotted 45 overs, setting Punjab a modest target of 66 for victory. Punjab made light work of the chase, racing to a win in just 6.2 overs.

Star performers: Uday (Punjab, 109); Aditya Purohit (Bengal, 122); Rishav (Jharkhand, 5/44); Chandrasekar (TNCA XI, 5/67); Aditya Mishra (MP, 5/93).

The scores (round two, day three): Group-A: At Gojan-B: TNCA President's XI 384/9 & 4/2 in 5 overs drew with Maharashtra 228 in 74.1 overs (Prithvi Shaw 66, Harshal Kate 62, Siddharth Mhatre 42, C.V. Achyuth 3/50). **Points: TNCA President's XI 3(9); Maharashtra 1(1).**
At SSN: Himachal Pradesh 144 & 74/2 in 15.4 overs (Ankush Bains 37 n.o.) drew with Chhattisgarh 227/6 decl. in 65.4 overs (Rishi Sharma 51, Ashutosh Singh 37, Sanjeet Desai 41, Amandeep Khare 37, Apoorav Walia 3/57). **Chhattisgarh 3(9); HP 1(1).**
Group-B: At TI-Murugappa: Baroda 176 & 182/9 in 45 overs (Harsh Desai 32, Pradip Yadav 38, Vanshaj Sharma 4/74, Abid Mushtaq 4/78) lost to Jammu & Kashmir 280 & 82/0 in 24.3 overs (Vivrant Sharma 34 n.o., Yawar Hassan 48 n.o.). **J&K 7(13); Baroda 0(6).**
At SRMC (Turf): Odisha 222 & 184/8 in 45 overs (Swastik Samal 37, Om Munde 41, Akash Pandey 4/64) lost to Indian Railways 210 in 60.5 overs (Kush Marathe 33, Eshaan Goyal 31, Zubair Ali Khan 80, Sumit Sharma 4/110, Badal Biswal 3/57) & 197/5 in 38 overs (Ashish Singh 34, Eshaan Goyal 40, Dinesh Mor 67). **Railways 6(6); Odisha 0(0).**
Group-C: At Gojan-A: TNCA XI 414/8 drew with Haryana 207 in 63.2 overs (Lakshya Dalal 73, Ankit Kumar 32, Dheeru Singh 36, D.T. Chandrasekar 5/67). **TNCA XI 3(9); Haryana 1(7).**
At IITM-Chemplast: Mumbai 266 drew with Bengal 325/5 in 90 overs (Aditya Purohit 122, Saurabh Singh 86, Anustup Majumdar 34). **Bengal 3(3); Mumbai 1(1).**
Group-D: At MRF-Pachaiyappa's: Madhya Pradesh 230/9 & 230/8 in 45 overs (Shubham Sharma 30, Soham Patwardhan 42, Akshat Dwivedi 39 n.o., Mangesh Yadav 75, Prerit Dutta 3/89) lost to Punjab 395/9 decl. in 88 overs (Uday Pratap Saharan 109, Anmolpreet Singh 72, Anmol Malhotra 87, Aditya Mishra 5/93) & 68/4 in 6.2 overs (Aditya Mishra 3/31). **Punjab 6(6); MP 0(6).**
At Guru Nanak: Jharkhand 283 & 130 in 25.3 overs (Sharandeep Singh 39, Sourabh Shekhar 34, Tanay Thyagarajan 4/74, Aniket Reddy 3/25) lost to Hyderabad 330 in 82.4 overs (P. Nitish Reddy 106, Rahul Radesh 70, Varun Goud 65, Manishi 3/84, Rishav Raj 3/67) & 89/8 in 22.3 overs (G. Rahul Singh 35, Rishav Raj 5/44, Manishi 3/39). **Hyderabad 6(12); Jharkhand 0(0).**

KARNATAKA ROUND-UP

Kickstart FC wins Karnataka Women's League

Kickstart FC, with nine wins out of nine, won the Karnataka Women's League football tournament. In the final encounter, it blanked Legends de Sporting 5-0 to finish five points ahead of second-placed Misaka United FC.

Special Awards: Best goalkeeper: A. Aishwarya (Kickstart); **best defender:** P. Dhurga (Kemp); **best midfielder:** Aarushi Santhosh (Kickstart); **player-of-the-tournament:** Sanfida Nogrum (Misaka); **fair play award:** Roots FC.

Clean record: Kickstart FC won all its nine matches in the KWL SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Aakash and Himanshi take the honours

K.J. Aakash and Himanshi Chowdhary emerged the men's and women's singles champions respectively at the State-ranking table tennis tournament in Hosapete.
The results (finals): Men: K.J. Aakash bt Srikanth Kashyap 11-5, 15-13, 13-11, 5-11, 6-11, 11-4; **women:** Himanshi Chowdhary bt Tanishka Kapil Kalbhairav 13-11, 11-9, 11-6, 1-11, 11-8.
U-19: Boys: Atharva Nawarange bt Shubham Trivedi 11-8, 11-5, 12-10, 11-7; **girls:** Tanishka Kapil Kalbhairav bt Raashi V. Rao 11-7, 11-4, 11-5, 11-8.

Chikitha, Sharvari strike gold

ARCHERY

Sports Bureau

Chikitha and Sharvari... doing India proud. WORLD ARCHERY

Chikitha Taniparthi became the first Indian compound archer to win the women's under-21 individual title at the World youth archery championships in Winnipeg, Canada.

Sharvari Shende, a 16-year-old from Pune, added another gold to India's kitty by winning the recurve under-18 women's individual crown, while Gatha Khadake and Agstay Singh earned the recurve mixed team bronze.

India finished with four gold, two silver and two bronze medals.

Chikitha, a World Cup Stage team silver medallist, defeated European youth champion Paula Diaz Morillas of Spain 142-133 in the semifinals and Asian Grand Prix silver medallist Park Yerin of Korea 142-136 in the final to earn her maiden international medal in an individual competition.

Coming from Sultanpur in Telangana, the 20-year-old karate black belt winner who switched to archery, thanked her mentor Abhishek Verma for his support.

Asian silver medallist Sharvari toppled two Koreans, Kim Minjeong 7-3 in the semifinals and Kim Yewon 6-5 (shoot-off: 10-9) in the final, to claim the Worlds under-18 women's individual gold after Deepika Kumari and Komalika Bari.

The results: Recurve: Under-18: Individual: Gold medal match: Sharvari Shende bt Kim Yewon (Kor) 6-5 (shoot-off: 10-9). **Semifinal:** Sharvari bt Kim Minjeong (Kor) 7-3;
Mixed team: Bronze medal match: India (Gatha Khadake, Agstay Singh) bt Chinese Taipei (Kao Hui-Tang, Chen Pin-An) 5-3.
Compound: Individual: Under-21: Women: Gold medal match: Chikitha Taniparthi bt Park Yerin (Kor) 142-136.
Semifinal: Chikitha bt Paula Diaz Morillas (Esp) 142-133.
Under-18: Men: Bronze medal match: Yen Tzu Hsiang (Tpe) bt Yogesh Joshi 143-139. **Semifinal:** Yogesh lost to Hector McNeilly 132-136.

Imperia takes the honours in the Governor's Cup

HYDERABAD: Trainer Ananta Vatsalya's filly Imperia, ridden by P. Ajeeth Kumar, won the Governor's Cup, the feature event of Sunday's (Aug. 24) races. The winner is owned by Mr. Kapil Agarwal & Mr. Shailendra Singh.

1. BHUPALPALLY PLATE (DIV. I) (1,400M): PERCEPTION (G. Naresh) 1, My Challenge (Gaurav) 2, Catch The Worm (B.R. Kumar) 3 and Sadiya (H.M. Akshay) 4. Neck, 9 and 2-3/4. 1m, 27.33s. ₹13 (w), 10, 12 and 14 (p). SHP: 36, THP: 39, SHW: 13 and 24, FP: 39, Q: 35, Tanala: 86. Favourite: Perception. Owner: Mr. Rakesh Reddy Kondakalla. Trainer: Robin Reddy Kondakalla.

2. SILVER PHANTOM PLATE (1,600M): ONSLAUGHT (Darshan R.N.) 1, La Quinta (Likith Appu) 2, Real Thalaivaa (Mohit) 3 and Konaseema (P. Ajeeth K) 4. 1/2, 1-1/2 and 1-1/4. 1m, 41.77s. ₹69 (w), 21, 37 and 71 (p). SHP: 88, THP: 141, SHW: 52 and 95, FP: 2,590, Q: 1,250, Tanala: 49,345. Favourite: Pride Aside. Owners: M/s. S.A. Shezad Abbas, Soma Raju Adipudi, Syed Ainuddin Arif & Yadugiri Kiran Kumar. Trainer: Raza Shezad.

3. BHUPALPALLY PLATE (DIV. II) (1,400M): DIVINE SECRET (B.R. Kumar) 1, Elegant Lady (Rafique Sk.) 2, Classical Music (H.M. Akshay) 3 and Caraxes (Darshan) 4. Not run: Smart Boy. 7-3/4, 5 and 6-3/4. 1m, 28.95s. ₹10 (w), 10, 19 and 13 (p). SHP: 34, THP: 32, SHW: 12 and 17, FP: 39, Q: 37, Tanala: 82. Favourite: Divine Secret. Owners: M/s. Mukteshwar Racing LLP & Mr. C. Aryama Sundaram. Trainer: R.H. Sequeira.

4. HILL FOR PLATE (DIV. I) (1,200M): SHUBHRAK (A.A. Vikrant) 1, Most Beautiful (Akshay K) 2, Aos Si (I. Chisty) 3 and Battle On (P. Sai K) 4. 2-1/4, 3/4 and 1/2. 1m, 15.58s. ₹317 (w), 30, 11 and 13 (p). SHP: 23, THP: 39, SHW: 56 and 14, FP: 2,168, Q: 797, Tanala: 5,636. Favourite: Natu Natu. Owner: Mr. Md. Sultan. Trainer: Mr. M.F. Ali Khan.

Celebrating a winner: Jishnu Dev Varma, Governor of Telangana, presenting the Governor's Cup to Imperia's trainer Ananta Vatsalya in the presence of HRC chairperson Surender Reddy, stewards V. Krishna Das, P.S. Reddy and R. Rajesh. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

5. B. MARIDESHWARA RAO MEMORIAL CUP (1,200M): STAR FOREVER (P. Sai Kumar) 1, Glorious Power (Akshay K) 2, Warwick (P. Ajeeth K) 3 and Arion One (B.R. Kumar) 4. 2-3/4, Neck and 1. 1m, 13.10s. ₹17 (w), 10, 12 and 13 (p). SHP: 31, THP: 36, SHW: 10 and 37, FP; 45, Q: 29, Tanala: 83. Favourite: Star Forever. Owners: M/s. Ashok Ranpise, Bollineni Krishnaiah, Seshadri Reddy Pochana, Teegala Sumant Reddy, Teegala Vijender Reddy, Satish Kumar Reddy Poondla, Giri Prathamesh Mahadev & Teja Gollapudi. Trainer: K.S.V. Prasad Raju.

6. NORTHERN DANCER PLATE (1,400M): N R I ULTRAPOWER (Akshay Kumar) 1, Noble Heart (Kuldeep Sr.) 2, N R I Sport (B.R. Kumar) 3 and Armstrong (Deepak) 4. 2, 1-1/4 and 1-1/4. 1m, 26.68s. ₹21 (w), 11, 10 and 21 (p). SHP: 34, THP: 46, SHW: 19 and 15, FP: 37, Q: 19, Tanala: 168. Favourite: Noble Heart. Owner: Mr. Ravinder Reddy Male. Trainer: R.H. Sequeira.

7. GOVERNOR'S CUP (1,200M): IMPERIA (P. Ajeeth Kumar) 1, Vivaldo (I. Chisty) 2, Lashka (B.R. Kumar) 3 and Darling's Boy (Ajay K) 4. 1-1/4, 1-1/4 and 3. 1m, 12.19s. ₹80 (w), 23, 20 and 18 (p). SHP: 68, THP: 62, SHW: 13 and 43, FP: 875, Q: 339, Tanala: 2,089. Favourite: Decacorn. Owners: M/s. Kapil Agarwal & Shailendra Singh. Trainer: Ananta Vatsalya.

8. SALAR JUNG CUP (1,100M): DUBAI TOUCH (A. Ashad Asbar) 1, High Heels (Gaurav) 2, Exclusive Black (I. Chisty) 3 and Rolls Royce (Abhay) 4. Not run: Newfound Glory. 1, 2 and 1/2. 1m, 6.92s. ₹20 (w), 10, 14 and 47 (p). SHP: 44, THP: 57, SHW: 74 and 15, FP: 61, Q: 60, Tanala: 728. Favourite: Dubai Touch. Owners: M/s. N. Shyam Sunder, Anil Viswanatha Poduval & Vara Prasad Reddy. Trainer: Neelesh Rawal.

NOTE: *Soon after the start, Knight Crusader (Sonu K up) turned around and stopped galloping.*

9. HILL FORT PLATE (DIV. II) (1,200M): SAFALA (Mukesh Kumar) 1, Cape May (Likith Appu) 2, Ilene (Deepak) 3 and Niloufer The Great (H.M. Akshay) 4. Not run: Rare Vue. 8-1/2, 7-1/4 and 1/2. 1m, 14.29s. ₹24 (w), 16, 10 and 10 (p). SHP: 31, THP: 35, SHW: 13 and 21, FP: 110, Q: 68, Tanala: 234. Favourite: Safala. Owner: Mr. Harisharan Devgan. Trainer: Magan Singh.

Jackpot: (i) 70%: ₹60,556 (1 tkt) & 30%: 25,952 (1 tkt); (ii) 70%: 1,241 (202 tkts.) & 30%: 195 (551 tkts.).
Mini Jackpot: (i) 2,639 (15 tkts.), (ii) 799 (40 tkts.).
Treble: (i) 14,549 (1 tkt), (ii) 1,524 (6 tkts.), (iii) 498 (41 tkts.).

Haryana grapplers dominate

Sports Bureau

Haryana won the freestyle, Greco-Roman and women team titles in the National under-23 wrestling championships in Ranchihere on Sunday.

The medallists (winners only): Men: Freestyle: 57kg: Sagar (SSCB); **61kg:** Nikhil (Del); **65kg:** Mohit Kumar (SSCB); **70kg:** Naveen (HP); **74kg:** Parvinder (Har); **79kg:** Chandermohan (SSCB); **86kg:** Sagar Jaglan (Har); **92kg:** Punit Kumar (Har); **97kg:** Shanveer Singh (Pun); **125kg:** Ronak (Del). **Greco Roman: 55kg:** Lalit (SSCB); **60kg:** Mohit (Har); **63kg:** Sandeep (Har); **67kg:** Saurabh (UP); **72kg:** Dilpreet (Pun); **77kg:** Sagar (Del); **82kg:** Sachin (Chd); **87kg:** Rohit (SSCB); **97kg:** Abhimanu (Pun); **130kg:** Joginder (Har). **Women: 50kg:** Hanny Kumari (Har); **53kg:** Hansika (Har); **55kg:** Ahilya (Mah); **57kg:** Neha Sharma (Del); **59kg:** Dhanashree (Mah); **62kg:** Savita (Har); **65kg:** Pulkit (Har); **68kg:** Priyanka (SSCB); **72kg:** Manju (Har); **76kg:** Simran (Har).

Mirabai will be the cynosure of all eyes

The Tokyo Olympics silver medallist, returning to competition, has switched from 49kg to 48kg following a revamp in weight categories

Heave-ho! Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya tries his hand at lifting a weight at the inauguration in Ahmedabad on Sunday. VIJAY SONEJI

WEIGHTLIFTING

Sports Bureau

After her disappointing fourth-place finish in the Paris Olympic Gamess a year ago, Tokyo Olympics silver medallist Mirabai Chanu's return to competition will be the biggest attraction for the home crowd at the Commonwealth weightlifting championships, starting at the Veer Savarkar Sports Complex in Ahmedabad on Monday.

Going by her entry total of 192kg, seven kg less than her effort in Paris, the 31-year-old Mirabai is unlikely to push herself too hard.

Still, she is expected to claim a gold and secure a berth in the Commonwealth Games as the championships here offer direct qualification for the Glasgow multi-sport event next year.

The championships will help former World champion Mirabai, who has recovered from injuries and has worked on some technical aspects, to test herself as she switches from 49kg to 48kg following a revamp in the weight categories.

Besides the Commonwealth Games, the Asian Games – where Mirabai has not won a medal – will be on top priority for the ace lifter in 2026.

Commonwealth Games silver medallist Bindyarani Devi (58kg), bronze medallist Harjinder Kaur (69kg), Rishikanta Singh (60kg), N. Ajith (71kg) and V. Ajay Babu (88kg) are some of the leading Indian names who will also eye Glasgow berths.

Prominent names

The field will have prominent foreign lifters, including Canada's double Olympics medallist Maude Charron (63kg) and Malaysia's 2022 Commonwealth Games gold medallists Aniq Kasdan (60kg) and Aznil Bidin (65kg), Nigeria's Rafiatu Lawal (58kg) and Australia's Eileen Cikamatana (86kg).

Around 290 lifters from 30 countries are expected to participate in the event, which will see competitions in senior, junior and youth divisions.

Extra special: After falling at the first hurdle in 2022 and 2024, the 2021 champion Raducanu finally got it right. REUTERS

Raducanu solves the first round puzzle

US OPEN

Associated Press
NEW YORK

Emma Raducanu bagged her first US Open victory since her fairytale 2021 title triumph on Sunday with a demolition of Japanese qualifier Ena Shibahara.

The Brit was in complete control, breaking Shibahara's serve regularly on way to a 6-1, 6-2 win on the Louis Armstrong Stadium showcourt.

It was Raducanu's first success at the US Open since she made history four years ago, winning the title as a little-known qualifier at the age of 18.

"I'm very pleased to have come through the opener," said Raducanu. "First rounds are very challenging always as you have handle the nerves... I wanted to win a match here really bad."

Happy place

Raducanu, who describes the US Open as her "happy place" despite her record since 2021, said her mood was brightened by seeing familiar faces that she remembered from four years ago.

"There is this security guard who is still working here," she said. "Whenever I see him around – he was there from the start of the first round of qualifiers, second round, and all the way through to the final – it is really special."

Other results (first round):
Men: 16-Mensík (Cze) bt Jarry (Chi) 7-6(5), 6-3, 6-4; 18-Davidovich Fokina (Esp) bt Shevchenko (Kaz) 6-1, 6-1, 6-2; 6-Shelton (USA) bt Buse (Per) 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.
Women: 32-Kessler (USA) bt Linette (Pol) 7-5, 7-5.

Monday's Picks

WOMEN
5-Andreeva vs Parks
6-Keys vs Zarazua
9-Rybakina vs Pareja
11-Muchova vs Venus
15-Kasatkina vs Ruse

MEN
2-Alcaraz vs Opelka
5-Draper vs Gomez
9-Khachanov vs Basavareddy
11-Rune vs van de Zandschulp
12-Ruud vs Ofner

Top-order fires as Australia-A beats India-A in one-off 'Test'

Press Trust of India
BRISBANE

The Australia-A top-order fired in unison after off-spinner Amy Edgar completed her five-wicket haul as the hosts defeated India-A by six wickets on the final day of the one-off women's 'Test' on Sunday.

Edgar (five for 57) claimed the scalp of V.J. Joshitha in the second over of the day to get her five-for as India-A folded for 286 in its second innings, setting the hosts a 281-run target.

Australia-A's chase was anchored by half-centuries from Anika Learoyd (72), Rachel Trenaman (64) and Maddy Drake (68). It reached the target in 85.3 overs. Opener Trenaman and skipper Tahlia Wilson (46) gave the hosts a flying start, putting the Indian attack on the backfoot with a brisk 117-run partnership.

Just when it seemed the duo would bat India-A out of the contest, pacer Saima Thakor (two for 63) struck twice in successive overs.

She first removed Wilson and then had Trenaman caught behind by wicketkeeper Nandini Kashyap.

However, Drake and Learoyd combined for a commanding 136-run stand, batting with authority and flair.

Although India-A managed to get the duo out, the damage had already been done as the hosts cruised to victory.

The scores: India-A 299 & 286 in 81 overs (Shafali 52, Raghvi 86, Amy Edgar 5/57) lost to Australia-A 305 & 283/4 in 85.3 overs (Learoyd 72, Drake 68).

Drawing level: Torres celebrates after netting Barcelona's equaliser. AP

Barcelona mounts stunning comeback against Levante

EURO LEAGUES

Agencies
VALENCIA

Barcelona staged a thrilling second-half comeback to defeat host Levante 3-2 in the La Liga on Saturday.

Barcelona fell behind early as Ivan Romero capitalised on space inside the box in the 15th minute. Alejandro Balde was then penalised for handball following a VAR review, and Jose Luis Morales converted the penalty .

Barcelona fought after the half-time break and Pedri pulled one back with a stunning strike in the 49th. Ferran Torreslevelled the score just three minutes later .

The match appeared destined for a draw when Levante's Unai Elgezabal inadvertently headed Lamine Yamal's cross into his own net.

Fulham holds United

Manchester United is still searching for its first win of the season in the Premier League after squandering the lead in a 1-1 draw at Fulham on Sunday. United missed a chance to take a first-half lead against Fulham when Bruno Fernandes blazed a penalty over the crossbar.

It needed an own-goal by Fulham striker Rodrigo Muniz to give United the lead in the 58th.

Substitute Emile Smith Rowe poked home a cross from Alex Iwobi for a 73rd-minute equaliser.

The results: Premier League: Crystal Palace 1 (Sarr 37) drew with Nottingham Forest 1 (Hudson-Odoi 57); Everton 2 (Ndiaye 23, Garner 52) bt Brighton 0; Fulham 1 (Rowe 73) drew with Manchester United 1 (Muniz-OG 58).
LaLiga: Osasuna 1 (Budimir 9) bt Valencia 0.
On Saturday: LaLiga: Mallorca 1 (Morey 87) drew with Celta Vigo 1 (Rueda 38); Atletico Madrid 1 (Sorloth 8) drew with Elche 1 (Mir 15); Levante 2 (Romero 15, Morales 45+7-pen) lost to Barcelona 3 (Pedri 49, Torres 52, Elgezabal 90+1-og).
Serie A: AC Milan 1 (Pavlovic 45) lost to Cremonese 2 (Baschirotto 28, Bonazzoli 61); Roma 1 (Wesley 53) bt Bologna 0.
Bundesliga: Borussia Moenchengladbach 0 drew with Hamburg 0; Mainz 0 lost to Cologne 1 (Buelter 90).

Hundreds by Head, Marsh, Green headline Australia's record-breaking win

Run-fest: Head and Marsh provided the launchpad before Green took off. AFP

Agence France-Presse
MACKAY

Cameron Green slapped a 47-ball century with Travis Head and Mitchell Marsh also blasting tons as Australia crushed South Africa by 276 runs in a record-breaking third and final One-Day International on Sunday in Mackay.

The host, playing for pride, posted an ominous 431 for two after opting to bat – its highest ODI total on home soil.

It then dismissed the Proteas for 155 in the 25th over, with spinner Cooper Connolly taking five for 22.

Head was supreme in blazing 142 off 103 balls, ably supported by skipper Marsh (100 from 106). Their 250-run platform at Great Barrier Reef Arena was Australia's highest ever opening partnership against the Proteas, bettering the 170 by Matthew Hayden and Adam Gilchrist in Durban in 2002.

Green then took over with a whirlwind 118 not out to mark the first time Australia's top three have all scored centuries. Alex Carey was unbeaten on 50, with the 18 sixes slogged between them also a record at home.

The scores: Australia 431/2 in 50 overs (Head 142, Green 118, Marsh 100) bt South Africa 155 in 24.5 overs (Brevis 49, Connolly 5/22). **Toss:** Australia. **PoM**: Head. **PoS:** Maharaj.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, SOUTHERN (R&B) CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR
Phone: 0680-2281582, e-mail: ccescbam@gmail.com
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB) [e-Procurement]
Bid Identification No. CCE, S.C (R&B)-BAM-05/2025-26 No.3003//Dated:14.08.2025

1. The Chief Construction Engineer, Southern (R&B) Circle, Berhampur on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for construction of Road and Bridge works as detailed in the table below.
2. Nature of work : Road and Bridge Work
3. No. of work : 02 Nos.
4. Tender Cost : Rs.10,000/- (online)
5. Class of Contractor : "B" Class / "A" Class / Special Class
6. Availability of Bid document in the website. : 30.08.2025 10.00 AM to 15.09.2025 5.30 PM
7. Date of Opening of Bid : 16.09.2025 at 11.30 A.M.
8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website https://tendersodisha.gov.in.
9. Any Addendum / Corrigendum / Cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website only.

Sd/- (Damodar Kaibartta)
Chief Construction Engineer, Southern (R&B) Circle, Berhampur.
B-413 : OIPR-34103/11/0028/2526

Email ID: se_nerwkjr@rediffmail.com
GOVT. OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER,
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE: KEONJHAR
Identification No. NCB-11 / RWCKJR / 2025-26
No. 3279 // Date: 19.08.2025

1. Name of the work :- Repair / Maintenance of the Rural roads Constructed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the District of Keonjhar.
2. Total No. of Packages :- 02 (Two) Nos.
3. Estimated Cost (Approx.) :- From Rs.126.03 lakh to Rs.283.47 lakh (Approximately)
4. Period of completion :- 60 Calendar Months.
5. Other details :-

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	No. of Work	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding	
			From	To
1	2	3	4	5
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Keonjhar	NCB-11 / RWCKJR / 2025-26	02 Nos.	29.08.2025 at 11.00 A.M	12.09.2025 Upto 5.00 P.M

● Further details can be seen from the website: www.pmgsytenders.gov.in
Chief Construction Engineer, R.W. Circle, Keonjhar.
O-631 : OIPR-25177/11/0086/2526

ମୁଖ୍ୟ ନିର୍ମାଣ ଯନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ
ଗ୍ରାମ୍ୟ ନିର୍ମାଣ ମଣ୍ଡଳ, ବ୍ରହ୍ମପୁର
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR
(At/Po :- Ambapua, Near Income Tax Office, Berhampur-760011, Ganjam, Odisha)
(E-Mail:- serwbpr2004@yahoo.com; Tel No.:-0680-2404287)
E-Mail/E-despatch
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH GEPNIC e-Procurement
Bid Identification No. Online Tender/19-2025-26/BPR

Identification No.	Name of work	No. of Works	Approx. Estimated Cost (In lakh)	Class of Contractor	Period of Completion
Online Tender / 19-2025-26/ BPR	Bridge Works (SBY) for 2024-25	04 Nos	From Rs. 256.02 Lakhs to Rs.699.30 Lakhs	"B" Class, "A" Class or "Special" Class as applicable	12 (Twelve) & 15 (Fifteen) Calendar Month as provided

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender online for bidding	
		From	To
Chief Construction Engineer, R.W. Circle, Berhampur.	Online Tender /19-2025-26/BPR	29.08.2025 at 10.00 A.M.	12.09.2025 upto 5.30 P.M.

(i) EMD / Bid Security, Cost of Bid document is to be transferred through Online as per the procedure mentioned in the DTCN.
(ii) Non-submission of the information/documents through online by the bidder as per the items mentioned in the eligible criteria of the DTCN will also liable for rejection of his tender.
Further details & Corrigendum if any can be seen from the website: - www.tendersodisha.gov.in
Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Berhampur
O-593: OIPR-25071/11/0113/2526

THE HINDU GROUP
JOIN THE BIGGEST SPORTS INNOVATION EXPO.
A two-day conclave & exhibition that will bring together global sports leaders, investors, and innovators to shape the future of Indian sports economy.
Book a spot at our Sports Innovation Expo, where the world comes to witness your showcase as we define the next era of sport in India.
September 12 & 13, 2025
10 AM onwards
Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
'SPORTSTAR × KPMG
PLAYCOM
BUSINESS OF SPORTS SUMMIT | 2025
State Partner
SDAT
TAMIL NADU CHAMPIONS FOUNDATION
For trade enquiries, please contact:
Mumbai: +91 98205 88828 Delhi: +91 96545 39455 Bangalore : +91 94483 64925 Chennai: +91 98412 90799

Striking it rich: Sreeshankar's 8.27m effort fetched him the top prize while Rohit won the javelin and Ankita, below, claimed the steeplechase gold. R. RAGU

Rohit claims javelin gold, improves Worlds qualification chances

Sreeshankar tops in long jump but unlikely to make grade for the Tokyo showpiece; Anamika lands gold in heptathlon; Tamil Nadu bags the overall championship with a dominant display

ATHLETICS

K. Keerthivasan
CHENNAI

It's a no-brainer that Neeraj Chopra has inspired a generation of javelin throwers in India.

Though the National inter-State athletics meet at the Nehru Stadium here on Sunday had no javelin throwers making the cut through entry standards for the next month's World championships in Tokyo, Rohit Yadav, by claiming the gold with a personal best of 83.65m, has enhanced his chances of making the grade through World ranking points.

If Rohit makes the cut, India, in all probability, will have four at the Worlds – apart from Neeraj, Sachin Yadav (World ranking 22) and Yashvir Singh (30). In the last Worlds in Budapest (2023), four qualified, but only three could go as Rohit got injured.

Sachin Yadav finished second with a throw of 83.20m in his fifth and penultimate attempt. However, Yashvir Singh ended up a disappointing fourth (76.22m).

All credit should go to Neeraj, the defending World champion for inspiring youngsters. "If he (Neeraj) can do it, we, too can... That way, Neeraj has been an inspiration," added Rohit.

There were expectations that Murali Sreeshankar would qualify in men's long jump. Needing 8.27m to make the grade for the Worlds, the 26-year-old produced an 8.06m, which won him the gold, but unlikely he will make it to Tokyo through World rankings.

"I think I'll just miss out by probably one or two spots. Whatever has happened, I'll just embrace it. I'm happy. Because last year, this day, I wasn't even sure that I'll be jumping again," Sreeshankar, who returned to competition in July after 15 months of surgery and recuperation, said.

The results: Men: Javelin: Rohit Yadav (UP) 83.65m; long jump: Murali Sreeshankar (Ker) 8.06m; Steeplechase: Balkishan (Har) 8:51.17s; 4x400m relay: TN (T. Santhosh, T. Yokesh, Rajesh Ramesh, Vishal T. K.) 3:07.53s. **Women's: 10000m:** Ravina Gayakwad (Mah) 35:09.57s; **High jump:** K. Gobika (TN) 1.80m; 3000m **Steeplechase:** Ankita Dhiyani (Uttr) 9:44.83; **Heptathlon:** Anamika K. A. (Ker) 5466; **4x400m relay:** Karnataka (D. Gowda, Disha Alioe, Priya Mohan, Poovamma Raju) 3:38.29s. **Best athlete: Men:** Vishal; Women: Ankita. **Team Championships: Men:** TN (101); 2. UP (58), **Women:** 1. TN (90); 2. Haryana (63). **Overall championships:** 1. TN (195); 2. Haryana (121).

Crack shots: Aishwarya flanked by Zhao and Okada. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Aishwary Pratap wins gold in rifle 3-position event

SHOOTING

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar beat the qualification topper Zhao Wenyu (587) of China by half-a-point to clinch the gold in the 50-metre rifle 3-position event in the 16th Asian shooting championship in Shymkent, Kazakhstan, on Sunday.

It was the second individual gold in the Asian championship for the two-time Olympian, the 24-year-old Aishwary, who had won the earlier title in 2023 in Changwon, Korea.

In fact, Aishwary had won the silver last year and has also three individual gold medals from World Cups.

It was impressive fare from Olympian Chain Singh and Akhil Sheoran who also made the finals, but finished fourth and fifth respectively.

Together the Indian trio was beaten to the gold by China, by three points.

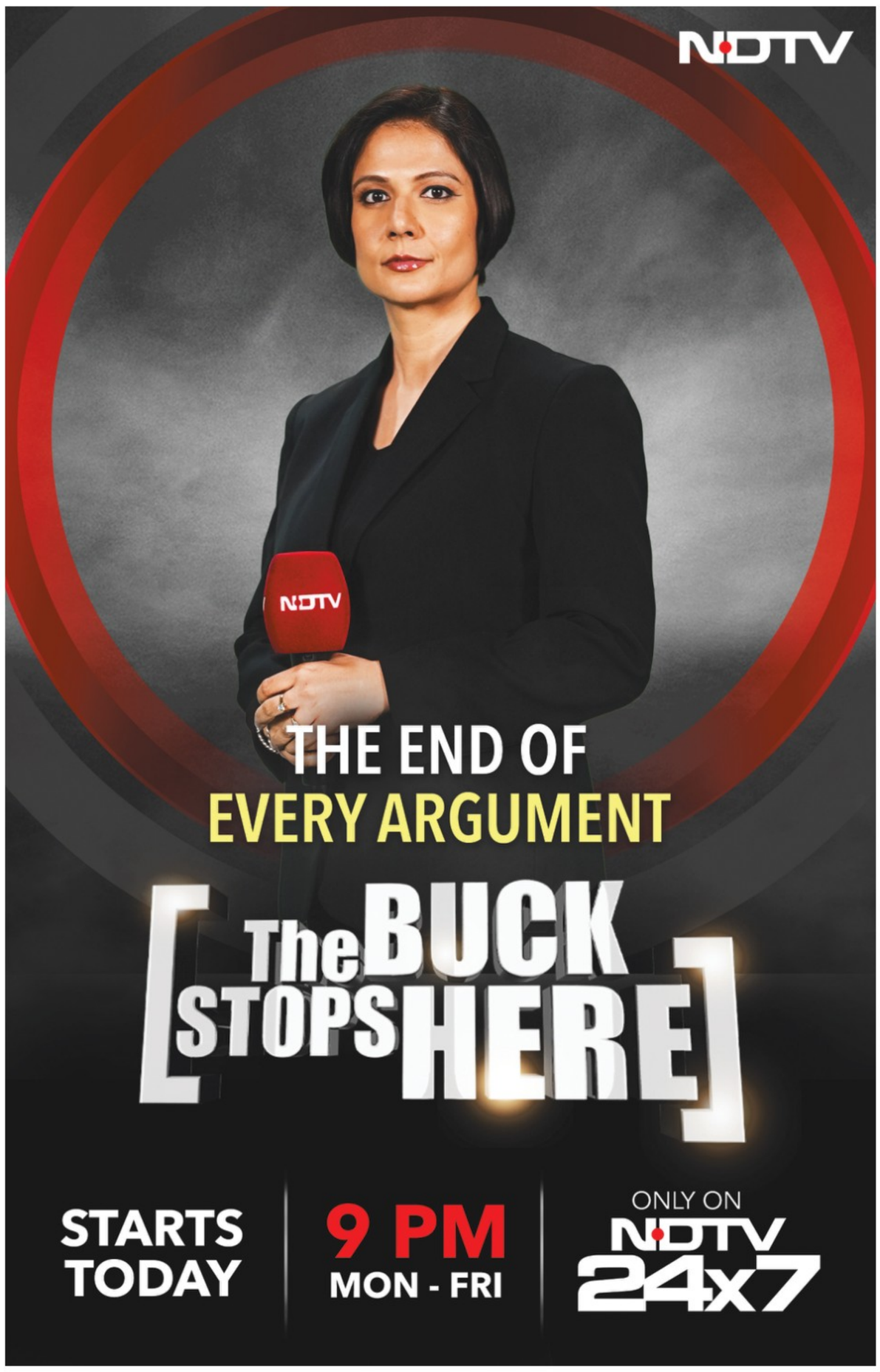
Adriyan sizzles

Yet, there was no stopping the Indian gold rush, as Adriyan Karmakar won the junior title with an impressive Asian record of 463.8 in the final, as he outclassed the field, and beat Han Yinan of China by 4.2 points.

It was a remarkable effort by Adriyan in the final, as he had qualified in the eighth place with a modest score of 576. Vedant Waghmare did well to clinch the bronze medal.

The cup of joy for the Indian camp was complete, as the juniors bagged the team gold, with Rohit Kanyan shooting a 575. Korea finished second ahead of China.

Top of the heap

India was sitting pretty on top of the medals table with 26 gold, nine silver and 11 bronze.

The results: 50m rifle 3-position: Men: 1. Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar 462.5 (584); 2. Zhao Wenyu (Chn) 462.0 (587); 3. Naoya Okada (Jpn) 448.8 (585); 4. Chain Singh 435.7 (582); 5. Akhil Sheoran 424.9 (581); RPO: KIran Jadhav 584; Babu Singh Panwar 574. **Team:** 1. China 1750; 2. India 1747; 3. Korea 1740. **Juniors:** 1. Adriyan Karmakar 463.8 (576); 2. Han Yinan (Chn) 459.6 (578); 3. Vedant Waghmare 448.8 (582); 10. Sami Ullah Khan 575; 12. Rohit Kanyan 575; 16. Gauurav Desale 569; 17. Hithesh Srinivasan 564. **Team:** 1. India 1733; 2. Korea 1722; 3. Kazakhstan 1712.